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Japan

Reportage on Middle East Situation Continues

Embassy in Kuwait Vacated

OW2908125490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1234 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 29 KYODO—Japan has vacated its embassy in Iraqi-occupied Kuwait, Foreign Ministry officials said Wednesday. This does not imply that Japan is closing the embassy or withdrawing recognition of the government of Amir Shaykh Jabir al- Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, forced out by Iraq's invasion August 2, the officials said.

Officials said the two diplomats who remained at the embassy after the Iraqi-imposed deadline on August 24 for the closure of all diplomatic missions in Kuwait flew to Baghdad earlier in the day.

The officials would not confirm a link between the departure of the two diplomats and Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's announcement of Japan's contribution to international efforts aimed at countering the Iraqi invasion. Kaifu announced a package of measures on national television just one hour after the diplomats were confirmed to have arrived safely in Baghdad.

The Foreign Ministry has decided that the diplomats in Kuwait should give the highest priority to their physical safety, officials said.

The two diplomats became the only occupants of the embassy on August 23, when the last contingent of 245 Japanese nationals flown to Baghdad as part of an evacuation operation left Kuwait for the Iraqi capital. The Foreign Ministry had advised Japanese nationals that Baghdad would be safer than Kuwait. The 31 nationals who did not follow the advice remain in the occupied country.

On August 25, one day after Baghdad's deadline passed, Iraq cut off electricity, water, and telephone services to the embassy. Since August 26, the diplomats had been complying with Iraqi orders for them to spend the evenings in a hotel.

Officials said the two diplomats were moved out of Kuwait as it was judged that the security situation there would likely further deteriorate, putting their lives in increasing danger.

Bush Urges More Efforts

OW2908160090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1544 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 29 KYODO—U.S. President George Bush urged Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Wednesday to make greater efforts in its contribution to help resolve the Persian Gulf crisis, Japanese officials said. Bush told Kaifu in a telephone conversation that he hoped Japan's package of measures was not finalized and that he expects the Japanese Government to further expand them. Bush generally expressed understanding on the Japanese package Kaifu presented as part of Japan's contribution to resolving the Gulf crisis.

In the 20-minute talk with Bush prior to giving a nationally televised press conference, Kaifu explained that Japan was doing its best within the framework of its Constitution which bans use of force to solve international conflicts.

Kaifu announced that Japan will send civilian cargo planes and ships to transport nonmilitary supplies, dispatch a medical team, extend economic assistance to the Gulf region nations and offer 10 million dollars to aid Kuwaiti refugees seeking asylum in Jordan. Kaifu said Japan did its best to draw up its contribution to peace maintenance efforts in the Mideast in compliance with United Nations Security Council resolutions. He said that Japan decided on the measures on its own initiatives.

The telephone conversation was set up to earn final understanding from the United States before Japan officially declared its contribution program, officials said. Japan spent nearly a month devising the concrete details in the program which was released late Wednesday.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Taizo Watanabe, speaking later to foreign correspondents, said that U.S. officials in Washington have exhibited a "positive response" to the Japanese package of measures. "Some of them said they were impressed with the list," he said. "It is a scheme which interested them." Watanabe said the positive reactions were conveyed in Washington to Minoru Tanba, deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry's North American Affairs Bureau.

"We are doing our best within our legal and constitutional restraints," the spokesman said.

But the Japanese package appeared to fall short of the "visible involvement" called for by the U.S. Government and vocalized in tough language recently by U.S. Ambassador to Japan Michael Armacost. "We'd like a contribution that is worthy of a country that is one of the biggest countries in the world, one of the most prosperous countries in the world, a country that has the biggest stake in the oil resources of that region, and a country that has professed to be interested in leadership in the United Nations," Armacost recently told a group of editors.

Armacost warned that Japan's leisurely and lackluster response to the Gulf crisis may become a crucial factor when Americans consider the merits of the U.S.-Japan security relationship. "After an issue like this comes up, it tends to define for all Americans who their friends are," he said.

A senior Foreign Ministry official expressed dismay at comments that U.S.-Japan security ties could suffer if Japan shows itself willing to assume some of the costs of the Gulf operation but none of the risks. "If we spend weeks and nights on this (package) and still it is called into question, well, there's nothing we can do about it," he said.

Watanabe acknowledged that Japan's initial package of contributions may not be large enough to satisfy all expectations, but called it "a new beginning." "It is an agonizing process like giving birth to a new baby," he said. "This is the first experience in our postwar history to volunteer to contribute to the work of maintenance of peace and stability in a region far away from Japan and the Far East."

Plan Not Product of 'Pressure'

OW2908113790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 29 KYODO—Japan will soon launch the first stage of a "strong initiative" toward international efforts in the Persian Gulf region, a top Foreign Ministry official said Wednesday.

The official, however, denied Japan is doing so under pressure from the United States. "We should not do what we plan to do because the U.S. has asked us to do it."

"Rather, we should take a strong initiative in order to safeguard the livelihood of the Japanese people," said the official speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity just prior to the government announcement on Japan's response to the Gulf crisis.

He said Wednesday's initiative will represent the "first chapter" of Japan's overall package of contributions.

The official expressed dismay at talk in some Japanese quarters that the government is giving in to U.S. pressure by involving the country in the situation in the far-flung Gulf region. He said the Japanese public does not appear to fully realize the significance of the events that have transpired in the region and the potential ramifications for Japan and the world as a whole.

The official noted that Japan is much more heavily dependent on Middle East oil than the United States.

"It is necessary to achieve a national consensus that this situation could be viewed as a very grave one for Japan," he said. Instead, the public's attention at the moment appears to be focused on the so-called "hostage problem" concerning Japanese nationals, he said.

The official noted that since Japan had 142 days worth of oil stockpiled when the crisis occurred, the panic reaction that accompanied past oil shocks did not materialize this time.

Asked how Japan's package of contributions may be linked to the fate of its nationals in Iraq, he replied that Japan considers the hostage issue to be purely a humanitarian matter. He distinguished it from operations to be carried out under the umbrella of the United Nations, which he characterized as designed "to prevent world economic confusion."

If the two issues were indeed linked by Iraq, he said, then the nationals of those countries which have dispatched naval forces to the Gulf would probably be the first affected.

More on Release of Women, Children

OW2908144090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1309 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 29 KYODO—Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan assured Japan on Wednesday that Japanese will be included among all Western women and children Iraq has ordered released, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said.

Ramadan gave the assurance when he met with Japanese Ambassador to Iraq Kunio Katakura, ministry officials said, quoting reports from the embassy.

Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council headed by President Saddam Husayn released the order in the Iraqi capital on Tuesday. According to latest figures, there are currently 51 women and 33 children detained in Iraq, although an earlier report put their numbers at 60 and 52, respectively.

The release of the Japanese was also confirmed by Iraqi Ambassador to Japan Rashid M.S. al-Rifa'i in his meeting with members of the Afro-Asian Study Group, a group within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

The Iraqi Embassy in Tokyo informed one of the group's members, Yoshiko Otaka, that the embassy has been officially notified of the release by the Iraqi Foreign Ministry and the release will begin on Wednesday.

In his meeting with Ramadan in Baghdad, Ambassador Katakura asked for the release of all Japanese who wish to leave Iraq. The ambassador also requested confirmation of the whereabouts of some 20 Japanese taken from the Al-Mansour Melia Hotel, where most of the detained foreign nationals are.

Katakura also asked Ramadan to indicate whether a report that some 200 Japanese detained in the hotel were taken to other places was true or not. The ambassador also pressed Ramadan to guarantee freedom of movement to the Japanese and their access to Japanese Embassy staff.

Meanwhile, 13 of the 19 Japanese businessmen allowed to leave Iraq arrived at Narita Airport Wednesday.

Kaifu Statement on Peace Efforts

OW3008032090 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1202 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Statement by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu at a news conference, held at the prime minister's official residence, called to announce Japan's contributions to help solve the Gulf crisis—live]

[Text] Plans for immediate contributions prepared by pooling the wisdom of responsible officials of ministries and other offices concerned are now ready, and I would like to report them to you here. This nation's plans for contributions to efforts aimed at restoring peace in the Middle East may be divided into two big sectors. One sector is cooperation in peace-restoring activities in the Gulf region, and this sector of cooperation comprises four areas: first, transportation cooperation; second, cooperation in kind; third, medical cooperation; and fourth, financial cooperation. The other sector may be called assistance to the Mideast countries concerned, and this sector can be classified into two areas: first, assistance to affected countries in the region and second, refugee relief. Details on each category of contributions will be explained by the chief cabinet secretary later.

I would like to take this opportunity to explain the contributions to you. As you are aware, a situation has developed in the Middle East that threatens the integrity of the entire international community, including this country. The situation is the collapse of peace in the Gulf region, brought on by Iraq's unlawful invasion. Iraq's invasion and acquisition of Kuwait is an act that roundly rejects the UN Charter. Subsequently, the UN Security Council, condemning this as an act of destroying international peace and security, decided to take economic sanctions against Iraq, which is refusing to unconditionally withdraw from Kuwait. The UN resolutions make the sanctions obligatory for all UN member nations.

The Middle East may be considered a faraway region, but I hope our people understand that Iraq's invasion of Kuwait presents three major problems. First, our nation must reject such a blatant act of invasion in the international community. If this country's measures against this act do not meet the true nature of the current situation, the doctrine of a peaceful nation, upon which this nation stands and leans, will be questioned both domestically and internationally.

Second, this nation relies on the Gulf region for 70 percent of its oil energy supplies. There is no doubt we must realize that maintaining peace and security in this region is a matter of national interest for Japan and that we must make efforts toward this end.

Third, restoration of peace in this region, which holds 65 percent of the world's oil reserves, is important for the economies of Japan and the world. Indeed, this has a life-or-death meaning for development and prosperity.

The East-West cold war days are over. The world is moving toward the 21st century, leaving behind cold war thinking. Japan, as a member of the industrialized democratic nations, must bear international responsibility and do its part in constructing a new international order. The restoration of peace in the Gulf region cannot be entrusted only to other people. Japan itself must make active contributions toward this.

In response to the UN resolutions on sanctions, the United States and many European, Arab, and Asian nations have stood up for the cause of restoring peace in the Gulf region, which was pitifully destroyed at the hands of Iraq. Even the Soviet Union gave support to the UN resolutions. Switzerland, a longstanding neutral country which is not a UN member, voluntarily joined in the UN sanctions. There are now truly widespread international efforts aimed at protecting peace.

If this nation delays further in taking appropriate measures, or if an impression spreads throughout the nations that Japan is doing nothing for the region in which its own national interests are at stake, then there will be extremely grave consequences for the future of this nation. This nation is not one that can survive international isolation.

Accordingly, I postponed my scheduled Mideast visit to concentrate on finalizing plans for Japan's contributions toward peace. The plans for contributions announced by the government will have to be supplemented later. This will be done along two basic lines. One is cooperation with respect to transportation and commodities and medicine to be provided to the multinational forces of the United States and European and Arab countries deployed in the Gulf region and neighboring sea areas to ensure the effectiveness of economic sanctions and to contain Iraq from making further aggression. It goes without saying that our stand under the Constitution will be adhered to in implementing the cooperation. The other is economic assistance to nations in the Gulf region that are facing grave difficulties as a result of the current situation. Humanitarian assistance to refugees is also part of the economic aid.

Constant efforts are necessary to defend peace. As this nation comes to hold a bigger role in the international community, its duties in defense of peace will also become greater, and this nation will be asked to make more contributions.

Such contributions by Japan are needed for the Mideast crisis. Japan may also be asked to take similar actions in the future as well. It is necessary to think seriously about reviewing the current laws and systems in order to enable Japan to fulfill its responsibilities in the international community in more appropriate ways, by cooperating in UN activities designed to protect and maintain peace and in international efforts that support UN activities. From the viewpoint of fulfilling our responsibilities as much as possible within the framework of the Constitution, I think it is also necessary to think seriously about enacting new laws. For example, although it is still at the stage of consideration, we can enact a law that could be called something like UN peace cooperation act.

Iraq's annexation of a neighboring nation, which is an unprecedented act, must be solved strictly in accordance with UNSC resolutions. Further perseverance and tenacious efforts over a considerable period of time is necessary in order for such efforts to bear fruit. We, as a government, are planning to cooperate with the Arab countries and other nations to actively support efforts aimed at seeking a fair solution that is acceptable to the international community. Moreover, we strongly urge the Iraqi Government to candidly listen to the world's voice, which is severely criticizing the Iraqi act. At the same time, we want to point out that it is possible for Iraq to reconstruct cooperative ties with Japan and other nations in the world if it accepts the UNSC resolutions.

Finally, I am grieved over the fact that some Japanese are deprived of their freedoms and are under extremely severe circumstances in Iraq and Kuwait and that their families in Japan are very worried. Their burden and fears might well be imagined. However, the fact that Japanese and many other foreigners are being unjustly treated in a manner that violates humanity and international laws is thoroughly unforgivable. The UN and the International Red Cross are already taking steps to solve the problem. We, as a government, will continue to do our best to secure the safety of the Japanese. At the same time, we are determined to exert all possible efforts in working with the international community to restore the security and freedom of the Japanese. I sincerely ask all Japanese, who are concerned about the future of Japan, to understand and cooperate with the government measures. Thank you very much.

'Full Text' of Announcement

OW2908152390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1458 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 29 KYODO—The following is the full text of the Japanese package of measures to assist international efforts to resolve the Persian Gulf crisis:

I. Cooperation in Peace Restoring Activities in the Gulf Region
Japan will extend cooperation to the countries engaged in activities to restore peace and stability in the Gulf region in accordance with the related U.N. Security Council resolutions.

1. Transportation Cooperation
In view of the enormous demand for transportation which may arise from activities of the participating countries, the Government of Japan will cooperate in the transportation of food, water, and medical supplies by chartering civil aircraft and ships.
2. Cooperation in Kind

The Government of Japan will take necessary measures to provide materials and equipment in such fields as protection from heat and supply of water, with a view to assisting the participating countries' activities which are being carried out in severe desert conditions.

3. Medical Cooperation
From the standpoint of making a positive contribution not only in materials and finance but also in personnel, the Government of Japan will without delay establish a system whereby a medical team of about 100 persons can be urgently dispatched, with a view to furnishing medical cooperation to the participating countries. As the first step, the Government of Japan will quickly dispatch an advance team.

4. Financial Cooperation
In addition to the above measures 1-3, the Government of Japan, to help restore peace and stability in the region, will extend financial cooperation to bear part of the expenses incurred by countries concerned for the chartering of aircraft and ships. The manner and scale of such financial cooperation will be decided as soon as possible.

II. Assistance to Middle Eastern Countries Concerned
1. Assistance to Affected Countries in the Region
The Government of Japan will provide economic cooperation including a significant magnitude of highly concessional financial assistance to the countries in the region such as Jordan, Turkey, and Egypt, which are confronted with urgent and serious economic difficulties. Japan also will appeal to the international organizations concerned to extend positive assistance to those countries.
2. Evacuee Relief
In response to the appeals from the international organizations concerned, Japan will bear a substantial share of the financial burden necessary for evacuee relief. As the first step, the Government of Japan has decided to extend aid of more than 10 million U.S. dollars for evacuee relief in Jordan.

Kaifu Gives News Conference

OW2908205190 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1214 GMT 29 Aug 90

[News conference by Prime Minister Kaifu with unidentified reporters following his announcement of a statement on Japan's measures for the Middle East at the prime minister's official residence in Tokyo—live]

[Text] [Reporter] Now we will begin our questions. Plans for Japan's contributions were completed today. Will you tell us on which points you placed the most emphasis in drawing up the plans? Four weeks have already passed since the start of the situation. Will you tell us why it has taken you so long to come up with these plans? The United States has called for Japan to make concrete and substantial contributions. Do you think the plans announced today will be met with understanding by the United States?

[Kaifu] The contribution plans have been prepared after studying all the possibilities from various angles, such as what cooperation we can provide within the framework of the Constitution. You said we have taken quite a time, but we have studied all the possibilities. We have completed the plans after discussing what it is that Japan can do independently. I would like to have your understanding in this respect. To speak about where we placed emphasis in preparing the plans, while Japan cannot participate militarily because of the Constitution—and we have to say so frankly when we cannot do this—we have, in making studies, put the emphasis on what Japan can do to maintain peace in that area in keeping with the UN resolutions; in other words, what Japan can do for the nations in the Gulf. These are plans that represent what Japan can do to help the nations' activities in enforcing the UN resolutions to maintain and defend peace. We will do this through cooperation in transportation, commodities, and medical aid. Please understand this.

[Reporter] Are you saying that the plans then have met the request of the United States?.

[Kaifu] Japan has done its best in preparing the plans, using its independent judgment. There have been various reports on this matter. We have to think from Japan's position, within the framework of the existing Constitution, and within Japan's capabilities. Since there are things which we can and cannot do, limited by our capabilities, we have consulted with the people of the ministries and offices concerned, parties, and people from other areas on this. I can say that we have drawn up the plans independently within the limits of what we can do. Hence, we would like to have understanding of our efforts shown in the plans from the people of the United States and Gulf nations.

[Reporter] I would like to have your comment. You clearly said that Japan cannot make a military contribution. But in case of cooperation on transporation, will the planes and vessels provided by Japan not carry military-related commodiites? And will funds to multinational forces not come in conflict with the provisions prohibiting exercise of the right to collective defense under the Constitution?

[Kaifu] As for the first question, we have had ample discussions with and sought understanding of private enterprises concerned. We do not intend to include in items to be carried weapons, ammunition, or troops. As for the second question regarding funds for multinational forces, they are funds, not military force. The multinational forces are deployed there pursuant to the UN resolutions for defense of peace. They are sweating there to defend peace. As for Japan, it cannot do so. What Japan can do as its contribution is to share the burden of the costs for them. That is the way I think.

[Reporter] You mentioned that you are considering in the long term the legislation of a law for cooperation in peace through the UN. How do you plan to push this? In connection with this, do you have any plan to push for a revision of the Self-Defense Forces Law? This will require deliberations by the ruling and opposition parties. When do you plan to call the next extraordinary session of the Diet? The last question: Former Party General Secretary Abe proposed that the government have a research commission to discuss these things. What do you think about such a proposal?

[Kaifu] About your first question, after starting the task of drawing up the plans, since it was our first experience to do such a thing, we have discussed what we can do—what we can do within the framework of the Constitution—to enforce the UN resolutions when a conflict breaks out. For instance, we tried to interpret the Emergency Aid Law in an expanded way, but the law does not assume the outbreak of a conflict, and there was no way it could be applied. But if Japan only looks at the peacekeeping activities of the UN as an onlooker, it will not be right. It has major responsibilities to bear in the new world order. We have given careful consideration to what Japan can do. We have found that there are no laws or regulations which could be used in this specific situation. But it has been our national position for a long time that Japan respect the spirit of the UN and pursue peace diplomacy centering around it.

I have met with representatives of other political parties, devoting what time I had to hearing their views on the issue. I feel that they agree that we should uphold the UN in our thinking. That being the case, I think it is important that we seriously discuss what kind of contributions we can make by way of forming a law for cooperation in peace through the UN. Of course, I gave this name as an example only. You asked when I will refer this to an extraordinary session of the Diet, and you also mentioned about a possible organization which will deliberate and handle this. We need more time to be able to work out details. Naturally, if the government comes up with a draft plan, it will be given full deliberations by the ruling and opposition members of the Diet, as well as hearings by other people concerned. We are not yet at the stage, however, of being able to say when it will be ready or give other specifics. We will have to study the issue further.

[Reporter] I think my question is connected to what you have just said. There appear to be people within the party who think that studies should be made for a possible revision of the Constitution, if necessary, to cope with contingencies in the future. I would like to ask you again: Are you thinking about making studies for a possible amendment of the Constitution, if necessary, to deal with a contingency?

[Kaifu] I believe the basic principles embodied in the Constitution —ideas of democracy, peace, and respect of basic human rights—are important. I believe these ideas must be maintained.

[Reporter] Next, I would like to ask you about the safety of those Japanese who are in Iraq. More than 400 Japanese still remain in the country. Do you have any plans regarding them, or effective means to get them out?

Do you not think the plans of contributions just announced could adversely effect the issue of protecting these Japanese? For the purpose of securing their safety and for the purpose of solving the overall situation, do you have any specific plan, like sending a special envoy of the prime minister?

[Kaifu] As for the issue of the Japanese in Iraq, as I said earlier, they are being deprived of their freedom. They live in very difficult conditions. The government has until today done its best to regain their safety as soon as possible. But you are aware of the current situation. On the prospects for a solution of the issue, I have nothing to say beyond that we will do our very best. We are working through the UN, and the UN, led by the secretary general, is working on this issue. We have made requests for their release through the International Red Cross. Locally Ambassador Katakura is devoting 24 hours a day to the issue, and these efforts are beginning to show results, to a certain degree. I believe we will have to keep up our best efforts hereafter.

To reply to your question on Japan's contributions, after all, this is an issue of different dimension. From a humanitarian viewpoint, all the people who are deprived of their freedom as a result of the unforgivable acts, whether they are Japanese or other nationals, have to be helped to fulfill their hope of getting out of the country without delay.

But Japan's contributions to efforts by the people who are there to stop the Middle East conflict from spreading further in pursuit of UN resolutions or Japan's contributions to help solve various problems and thus bring stability to the nations—all these contributions and the issue of helping the people out of the country must be thought of separately. I think they are important but separate issues.

We will tackle the issue of getting the people out with everything we have. We will redouble our efforts. Specifically, we are cooperating with all the nations concerned, and our requests are being conveyed through international organizations, such as the Red Cross, and through local ambassadors.

[Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister. Your schedule to visit the Middle East countries has been put off until mid-October. Do you still intend to carry it out as scheduled? If so, are you thinking about engaging in behind-the-scenes diplomacy on that occasion?

[Kaifu] Since what the situation called for is that I stay here and work on a policy for the situation, I had to put off my schedule and to have Foreign Minister Nakayama go instead. I would like to go on the visit as soon as possible. The schedule has only been delayed, not canceled.

You asked about what I intend to do on that occasion. In fact, every day is important for me. Japan's plans for contributions have been announced, and, if necessary, they will have to be complemented. Of course, I will try to help on that occasion if that is possible.

[Reporter] There will be an event called the Children's Summit in New York. Are you going to the Middle East after attending the summit?

[Kaifu] I am not in a position to speak about such details. We have to take into account the schedules of the people whom I hope to see. I myself have been busy with the work of preparing the plans for the contributions. All my attention has been devoted to it.

[Reporter] In connection with the dispatch of the Self-Defense Forces troops overseas, there are views that the the Self-Defense Forces Law should be revised. What do you think about these views on revising the law?

[Kaifu] I said in the beginning that we are not thinking about sending the Self-Defense Forces overseas. I said that we will seriously study and discuss what can be permitted in the framework of the Constitution.

[Reporter] Thank you. With this we would like to close the news conference.

[Kaifu] Thank you so much.

Kaifu on 'Belated Contribution'

OW2908145890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1429 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 29 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Wednesday defended Japan's belated contribution to settling the Persian Gulf crisis as the result of earnest discussions among government agencies. But he called for streamlining laws to allow Japan to act quickly in future emergencies.

Kaifu said that Japan's delay in deciding on concrete measures supporting the international sanctions against Iraq over its August 2 invasion of Kuwait would tarnish Japan's reputation overseas.

The prime minister proposed enacting a "United Nations Peace Cooperation Law" to allow Japan more agility in fulfilling its responsibility in global peace efforts.

Kaifu reiterated that Japan's contribution is confined within the framework of its pacifist Constitution, which bans the use of force to settle international disputes, but said he will study procedures concerning revision of laws. He stopped short of revealing his plans on revising the Self-Defense Forces Law, but said he will seriously discuss the matter with regard to what is permitted under the Constitution.

"Japan cannot participate militarily due to the constitutional framework," Kaifu said in a nationally televised press conference.

"But while making clear what we cannot do, we did our best to present how Japan can assist the peace maintenance efforts in the (Gulf) region in compliance with the United Nations resolution," he said.

Kaifu said Japan was not in a position to join other Western nations whose combined military forces are trying to block Iraq from further invasion.

"Sharing the costs ... that's what Japan can do. That is not banned by the Constitution," Kaifu said, indicating he believes that financial assistance to the multinational forces in the Gulf does not violate the Constitution. "We never considered transport of arms, ammunition, or military personnel," he said.

Kaifu said he hopes the Gulf region nations and the United States, which has been critical of Japan's slow pace in coming up with measures to help defuse the crisis, will understand.

Japan's contribution centers on providing financial support and transportation of nonmilitary supplies for the multinational forces, economic and medical support to nations in the region, and 10 million dollars in aid to refugees in Jordan.

Kaifu said Japanese assistance to the U.N. resolutions calling for strict economic sanctions against Iraq and approving the limited use of force for their implementation should be considered completely separately from efforts to free Japanese nationals.

Kaifu pledged to continue utmost efforts for the early release of 434 Japanese citizens detained in Baghdad since last week. But he was cautious about the prospects of an immediate solution to the problem.

Opposition Reacts to Measures

OW2908164690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1624 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 29 KYODO—Japanese opposition parties were divided in opinion Wednesday on the government's decision to contribute to international efforts to resolve the Gulf crisis.

The Japan Socialist Party (JSP), the nation's largest opposition party, said it would not accept the government's measures, branding them as indirect aid to multinational military forces deployed in the Gulf region. The JSP also said the government should map out separate action to help the United Nations resolve the Gulf crisis.

The Japan Communist Party expressed a similar opinion, saying that the measures will pave the way for Japan to dispatch the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) overseas, a measure banned under the nation's Constitution.

But the Democratic Socialist Party, a middle-of-the-road party, described the government decision as insufficient and said that the government should propose more positive actions, including the dispatch of SDF personnel engaged in the nonmilitary fields of medication, transportation, and communications.

Meanwhile, the No. 2 opposition party Komeito and the minor group United Social Democratic Party supported the government decision which they said was understandable. Yuichi Ichikawa, Komeito secretary general, said, however, that Japan should consider revising the current SDF Law to pave the way for it to dispatch noncombat personnel to help U.N. peacekeeping operations.

Business Community Views Measures

OW2908150790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1409 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 29 KYODO—The business community generally welcomed Wednesday the Japanese Government's decision to contribute to restoration of order in the Gulf region. Takashi Ishihara, head of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives, said the government's measures are the maximum it can do in light of constitutional limitations.

Eiji Suzuki, president of the Japan Federation of Employers Associations, said the measures are welcome, although they came a little bit late.

Eishiro Saito, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations, called on the government to expedite revision of related laws to meet the requirements of the emergency.

Major trading firms, which have a total of 76 employees retained in Iraq, refrained from overtly supporting the government measures out of fear that any steps taken by Japan would irritate the Iraqi Government.

Yohei Mimura, chairman of Mitsubishi Corp., said he hopes the government will take prompt action to obtain the freedom of Japanese detained in Iraq.

Executives of other major trading firms expressed concern that the Gulf crisis may give some government and officials of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party an excuse to revise the war-renouncing Constitution.

Officials of Toyota Motor Corp. and Nissan Motor Co. said they could be ready to comply with a government request that they provide automobile carriers to transport nonmilitary goods. Toyota and Nissan operate a total of 31 automobile carriers which they either own or charter.

The oil industry hopes that tension in the Gulf region will be resolved as soon as possible, said Yasuoki Takeuchi, president of the Petroleum Association of Japan.

But Shigeki Koyama, head of the Private Japanese Institute of Middle Eastern Economies, was critical of the government measures. He said it is not advisable for Japan to lean heavily toward the United States in the

Gulf crisis. He warned that Japan will suffer considerably if the crisis drags on, saying global demand for oil from members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries surpasses OPEC's capacity by six million barrels a day.

Multinational Force Funds 'Legal'

OW2908161690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1558 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 29 KYODO—Japan's official cabinet spokesman Wednesday denied that providing funds for the U.S.-led multinational force in the Persian Gulf would violate constitutional provisions interpreted as renouncing the right of collective defense.

Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Nobuo Ishihara, speaking immediately after a major policy speech on the Gulf crisis by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, said the financial measures were legal because of their nonmilitary nature. "Since financial cooperation is not armed action, it is not collective defense," Ishihara said.

Japan's Constitution is interpreted as allowing the right of self defense but forbidding the practice of collective defense.

The leading opposition Japan Socialist Party has come out against any funding of the multinational force in the Gulf. But Ishihara said planes and vessels chartered by the government would be used to transport food and medical supplies from Japan to areas requested by those countries in the multinational force, most likely Saudi Arabia.

Ishihara denied any legal violations if Japanese funds were used by other nations to charter planes and vessels to transport armaments.

$1 Billion 'Utmost' for Aid

OW3008034490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0319 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 30 KYODO—The government decided Thursday to provide 1 billion dollars in financial support to U.S.-led multilateral forces in the Middle East and to nations hard hit by the Persian Gulf crisis, Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said.

Hashimoto told a press conference that Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu telephoned U.S. President George Bush Thursday morning to explain the decision.

The funds include those designed to help finance transportation and provide nonmilitary goods and medical cooperation and will be set aside in the fiscal 1990 budget, he said.

"On the part of finance authorities, the amount is the utmost ... and we have no plans to disburse any additional funds in this year's budget," Hashimoto said. The decision came as part of a package of measures announced Wednesday night to help contribute to peace and stability in the Middle East.

Further on Gulf Aid Package

OW3008064790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0615 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 30 KYODO—Japan announced Thursday it will extend 1 billion dollars to support the U.S.-led multinational forces dispatched to the Persian Gulf area following Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait.

U.S. President George Bush, to whom Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu conveyed the decision by telephone Thursday, welcomed the Japanese decision, Foreign Ministry officials said. Bush was quoted as saying he thinks the United States will have a favorable response.

Bush said the world is watching Japan's moves as closely as it watches the United States, adding he thinks the Japanese Government's measures will be highly appreciated.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said, "The sum represents Japan's enthusiasm to contribute to peace." Sakamoto, speaking at a regularly scheduled news conference, said, however, that Japan has no plans at this moment of providing additional funding for the multinational forces in the Gulf.

Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, in a separate press conference, said, "On the part of finance authorities the amount is the utmost." The Finance Ministry will disburse the funds from the current fiscal year budget.

Kaifu on Wednesday unveiled a six-point program to help resolve the crisis in the Persian Gulf. The package includes providing logistical support for multinational forces in the Gulf area and the dispatch of Japanese medical teams.

The prime minister also pledged to charter commercil ships and aircraft to transport food, water, and medical supplies from Japan to the Middle East. He said Japan will help pay transportation costs for ships and planes chartered by other countries.

The package pledged economic aid to Middle East countries faced with economic difficulties because of their compliance with United Nations economic sanctions against Iraq. He mentioned specifically Jordan, Egypt, and Turkey as the countries Japan will help. Supplies expected from Japan include water and equipment to provide soldiers with protection from the desert heat.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama called U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on Thursday to inform him of Japan's decision to provide 1 billion dollars to the multinational forces, Foreign Ministry officials said. Nakayama told Baker that Japan will make maximum efforts to provide and transport supplies to the forces.

Baker welcomed Japan's package of measures, and told Nakayama that the international economic blockade against Iraq is being effectively implemented, the officials said.

Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Nobuo Ishihara, who accompanied Sakamoto at the press conference, said Kaifu decided on the 1 billion dollar sum after he broke an impasse at an early morning meeting attended by key cabinet members.

"Honestly speaking, yesterday I did not think a speedy decision would be possible, but this morning the prime minister exercised his judgment and delivered a decision," said Ishihara, head of the interministerial team charged with hammering out the package. Details of how the money would be spent were not yet decided, Ishihara said.

The U.S. Defense Department on Tuesday said it expects the cost of the U.S. military buildup alone to reach 2.5 billion dollars by the end of September.

Bush on Wednesday urged Japan to expand its contribution after Kaifu gave him on the telephone an outline of Japan's plan, which he announced later in a nationally televised press conference, government sources said. The U.S. President told Kaifu at that time that he planned to follow up the conversation in a phone call the next day, the sources said.

Japanese Males Reportedly Moved

OW3008131790 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1208 GMT 30 Aug 90

[From the "NHK News 21" program]

[Text] We have just received the following information:

Among the nearly 200 Japanese placed under house arrest at the al-Mansour Melia Hotel in Baghdad, a large number of males have been taken away from the hotel and detained at military and other facilities.

Here is the news with more details:

According to an interview with Japanese females by the NHK news team in Bagdahd this evening, Japan time, at the al-Mansour Melia Hotel where the Japanese are detained, it has been disclosed that among some 200 Japanese who are placed under house arrest at the al-Mansour Melia Hotel, almost all males have been taken away to oil refineries or military facilities.

The NHK news team has been allowed by the Iraqi side to enter the al-Mansour Melia Hotel together with Ambassador Katakura and others. The team has interviewed several Japanese females at the hotel. In the interview, the Japanese women said that among the nearly 200 Japanese detained at the hotel, the Japanese males were taken away by the Iraqi side to oil refineries or military facilities on 25 and 26 August. Moreover, all Japanese women and children were taken back to the hotel on 29 August. [sentence as heard] However, Japanese males were taken away and were then detained at military or oil facilities while Japanese females and children are still placed under house arrest at the hotel.

This is the information that we have just received from the NHK news team in Baghdad.

Kanemaru Rejects Rice Liberalization

OW2708065290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0551 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Text] Kannami, Shizuoka Pref., Aug. 27 KYODO—Influential ruling party politician Shin Kanemaru on Monday dismissed U.S. demands for an opening of Japan's protected rice market, noting that the U.S. still maintained import restrictions for some of its own products.

Kanemaru, former deputy prime minister, made the statement at a youth meeting of the Takeshita faction of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), which he serves as president.

"The U.S. has import restrictions just like Japan. I told (U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Clayton) Yeutter that coercing only Japan's rice market to open was unlikely," Kanemaru said. The two had met earlier and discussed the long-running U.S. demand that Japan open its rice market as part of a worldwide effort to eliminate protectionism in agriculture markets.

Kanemaru also appealed to food security concerns in defending the protected market, noting that two-thirds of the members of the Diet had experienced rice shortages just after World War II.

Komeito Proposes Partial Rice Liberalization

OW2808142490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1303 GMT 28 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 28 KYODO—An opposition Komeito party official on Tuesday proposed a phased and partial liberalization of rice imports, a subject of persistent trade friction with the United States. The chairman of the party's Ad Hoc Panel on Farm Issues also proposed a drastic review of the current domestic food control system, including the possibility of its abolition.

The proposals were featured in draft farm policy reforms announced by Kiyoshi Nishinaka, chairman of the No. 2 opposition party panel. Although they were made in a private capacity and inner-party disagreement remains, the proposals are certain to be mirrored in the party's official farm policy. The chairman of the Komeito's Policy Council, Takenori Kanzaki, has previously expressed similar ideas in connection with the controversial issue.

Nishinaka's draft, stressing the inadvisability of Japan, as a trade-oriented nation, insisting on a complete import ban on rice, envisages partial liberalization, limited by a strict quota.

In concrete terms, the proposals suggest imports up to 200,000 tons be allowed in 1992, and that the quota be expanded by 10 percent every year thereafter until it reaches 500,000 tons in the year 2002.

The draft envisages major state subsidies up to a maximum of 70 percent of costs to improve paddy fields larger than a hectare, as well as conversion of surplus paddies into residential land. The draft also recommends that all domestic rice trade be liberalized in 1997 aside from 30 percent of output to be purchased by the Government.

U.S. Missile Destroyer Deployment Protested

OW2508054490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0346 GMT 25 Aug 90

[Text] Yokosuka, Kanagawa pref., Aug. 25 (KYODO)—The U.S. Navy Saturday deployed a destroyer capable of firing nuclear cruise missiles at its base in Yokosuka, Kanagawa Prefecture, U.S. Naval sources said.

The deployment of the 8,040-ton Spruance-class Hewitt is the fourth naval vessel capable of carrying Tomahawk missiles at Yokosuka. The others are the 9,600-ton Aegis cruisers Bunker Hill and the 9,600-ton Mobile Bay, and the 8,040-ton missile destroyer Fife.

About 100 people opposed to the new naval deployment staged a demonstration near the base.

KDD, MCI, BT Plan Telecommunications Service

OW2708170290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1449 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 27 KYODO—Kokusai Denshin Denwa Co. (KDD) has started operating a joint corporate telecommunications network service with MCI [Microwave Communications of America, Incorporated] Telecommunications Corp. of the United States and British Telecom (BT), KDD announced Monday.

Port-plan network was developed under an agreement reached by the telecom firms in February 1990. Kyowa Bank is the first Japanese customer to use the new service, having just completed its own international telecom network.

KDD will use international circuits to link its port-plan systems in Tokyo and Osaka with MCI's system in Piscataway, New Jersey, and BT's system in London. Subscribers will be able to use save time and money by using the circuits in data, voice, facsimile or character communications.

The new 64-kilobit digital communications network between Japan's head office and the U.S., Britain, Hong Kong, and Singapore should help cut costs by about 30 percent, KDD officials said.

Firm Plans Warehouse System Marketing in U.S.

OW2808135790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1207 GMT 28 Aug 90

[Text] Osaka, Aug. 28 KYODO—Daifuku Co. said Tuesday it will set up a firm in the United States specializing in the sale of automatic warehouse systems. The leading maker of sophisticated equipment for handling materials said the bountiful, Utah-based Eskay Corp. will be capitalized at 900,000 dollars.

The Japanese company's U.S. subsidiary, Daifuku U.S.A. Inc., will put up 80 percent of the capital, with James Allred, a specialist in distribution systems, furnishing the remaining 20 percent. Allred will be President, and a senior official from Daifuku will act as chairman, a Daifuku spokesman said.

Daifuku U.S.A. now serves Japanese firms operating in the U.S. while Eskay, which will begin operations October 1, is intended to target U.S. firms.

Electrical Firm Wins U.S. Cable Contract

OW2708113290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1055 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 27 KYODO—Furukawa Electric Co. said Monday a U.S. National Laboratory has placed an order with it for 19 kilometers of superconducting cable for planned construction of a particle accelerator. Brookhaven National Laboratories in Long Island, New York, called tenders among cable production companies for cable for the project in June.

Furukawa and two other U.S. companies were chosen from nine competitors to produce a pilot version of the cable for the developmental stage of the laboratory's construction, Furukawa officials said. The officials did not divulge the price of the order, but said the laboratory plans to further select one of the three companies later to produce 520 kilometers of similar cable during the main stage of construction at a cost of about 1 billion yen.

The U.S. laboratory plans to start construction from October this year for completion in April 1994. The particle accelerator, called a relativistic heavy ion collider, is for the study of hypothetical basic particles known as quarks, the officials said.

Firm Develops Antarctic Wind Power Generators

OW2708140190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1247 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 27 KYODO—Kandenko Co., a major Japanese electrical engineering firm, Monday announced the completion of a test wind power generation system for use in the Antarctic. The system will be installed next January at Asuka Base, Japan's inland observation center in the Antarctic, and will be in trial operation over a one-year period, company officials said.

The experimental facility is the latest hope for wind power generation on the icy continent following 14 unsuccessful attempts by Honda Motor Co., Nihon University, and other research teams since 1957.

The officials are optimistic that the new system will work since it has been designed to withstand extremely low temperatures and very strong winds. The system, composed mainly of rotors, blades, and a generator, is six meters high, weighs 630 kilograms, and has a maximum generation capacity of five kilowatts.

Kandenko has close ties with Tokyo Electric Power Co.

Kanemaru-Deng Xiaoping Meeting 'Being Arranged'

OW2908090990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0837 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 29 KYODO—Former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru left Tokyo Wednesday for Beijing for talks with Chinese leaders, possibly including Deng Xiaoping.

It will be the first visit to China by Kanemaru, a leader of the largest faction within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). The veteran conservative politician has been known for his pro-Taiwan stance.

Kanemaru will meet Communist Party chief Jiang Zemin, Prime Minister Li Peng, and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen. The talks between Kanemaru and senior leader Deng Xiaoping are being arranged, his aides said. In a series of talks with Chinese leaders, Kanemaru is expected to discuss bilateral relations and possible reconciliation between China and Taiwan.

Kanemaru is scheduled to return home on September 5 after visiting Dalian, Shenyang, and Shanghai.

Group Returns From Visit to Northern Islands

OW2708140390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1224 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Text] Nemuro, Hokkaido Pref., Aug. 27 KYODO—A group of Japanese who visited their family graves on Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido returned to Nemuro Port, eastern Hokkaido, on Monday. The group of 42 Japanese, who visited Kunashiri Island for the first time since the end of World War II, came back here around 5 PM.

After leaving here on Friday aboard a training ship of Hokkaido University, the group also [went] and paid homage to their ancestors' graves at Tomari on Etorofu Island and Shibotsu in the Habomai Island Group. They also attended a meeting with local Soviet people in Tomari.

The other group of 23 Japanese was due to return here Monday midnight. The delegation left here on Friday aboard a Hokkaido prefectural government ship and visited their family gravesites on Etorofu Island for the first time.

In line with Japan's claim to the islands, all participants carried identification papers issued by the Foreign Ministry instead of passports.

Second Group Returns From Visit

OW2808044490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0314 GMT 28 Aug 90

[Text] Nemuro, Hokkaido, Aug. 28 KYODO—Twenty-three Japanese grave visitors returned Tuesday from Etorofu Island, one of the disputed Soviet-held northern islands off Hokkaido, after the first visit to graves there since World War II.

The group are bereaved family members of the former residents of Etorofu, the largest of the islands the Soviet Union occupied immediately after the war. They left Nemuro last Friday on the 386-ton vessel Hokuo Maru and landed on Etorofu's Shana Port on Saturday and traveled 25 kilometers to Rubetsu.

Soviet authorities have allowed the Japanese to visit graves of the former Japanese residents on other islands. The group also made a visit to graves at the Soviet-occupied island of Shikotan on Monday.

A separate group of Japanese conducted a grave tour of another Soviet-held island Kunashiri and returned Monday. Japan has long called for the return of the islands—Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan Islands, and the Habomais, all located east of Hokkaido.

Third Group To Visit Graves

OW2908081390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0606 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Nemuro, Hokkaido, Aug. 29 KYODO—A group of 23 Japanese left Nemuro Port Wednesday to visit their family graves on the Soviet-held island of Etorofu off northeastern Hokkaido. The group traveling aboard the 386-ton vessel Hokuo Maru will arrive at Etorofu's Shana Port on Thursday and pay homage to their relatives buried there. They are also scheduled to attend a meeting with local Soviet people.

The group will return to Nemuro on Sunday after visiting Shibetoro, the northeastern area of the island.

Two other groups of Japanese totaling 65 persons visited Etorofu and three other Soviet-held islands, Shikotan, Kunashiri, Andhabomai over the weekend to pray at their family graves and returned earlier this week.

Japan has long called for the return of the four islands, all located northeast of Hokkaido. It was the first time for Japanese to be allowed to visit the militarily sensitive Etorofu Island since the Soviet Union took over the islands at the end of World War II.

Hijacked Exiles in DPRK Want To Return

OW2608135090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1315 GMT 26 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 26 KYODO—Five Japanese leftist radicals who hijacked a passenger flight to North Korea in 1970 and have lived in exile there since have said they want to return to Japan to continue their activities within the limits of law. But in a series of recent interviews with KYODO NEWS SERVICE in Pyongyang, the five former Japanese Red Army members wanted in Japan rejected any suggestion their return should be contingent on some form of "surrender."

Five of the hijackers, comprising group leader Takamaro Tamiya, 47, Takahiro Konishi, 46, Moriaki Wakabayashi, 43, Shiro Akagi, 42, and Kimihiro Abe, 42, participated in the interviews at a Pyongyang hotel.

The five said they do not intend to conduct terrorist or destructive activities on their return to Japan. They gave assurances that if they could return to Japan, they would abide by the Constitution but would like to engage, for example, in political activities against the Japan-U.S. military treaty by retaining communism as their ideal.

In March 1970, in Japan's first hijack case, the Red Army members captured a Japan Airlines domestic flight, forcing it to land in Pyongyang the following month via Seoul's Kimpo Airport. They claimed their purpose in going to North Korea as "making a point for world revolution."

One of the members, Yasuhiro Shibata, secretly reentered Japan and was arrested in 1988. Another was reported to have died from illness in North Korea and another to have given up political activity after marrying a North Korean woman.

In the interviews, the five said they wrote twice to Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu asking him to accept their offer of talks over a possible legal homecoming. They also said they are preparing to start a North Korea-Japan trading venture to raise money for their political activities.

"We will respond to any offer from those in Japan who wish to do business with us," Wakabayashi said.

Akagi explained that Shibata's return to Japan had been for economic reasons.

The five said they have an office in Pyongyang's Po Tong Kang Hotel for their activities.

Leader Tamiya, who once was rumored to be ill, looked well and made comments on his interpretations of reforms in the Soviet Union and East Euope. But he said that things are different in North Korea.

Konishi, whose mother has been allowed to visit North Korea later this month, said he does not know what he should talk with her about in the first reunion with his mother in 20 years.

Kaifu Pledges Continued Economic Aid to Kenya

OW2708065490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0514 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 27 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told Kenya's Vice President and Finance Minister George Saitoti on Monday that Japan would continue giving Kenya economic assistance based on the Kenyan Government's priorities. Kaifu made the pledge in a 25-minute meeting at the prime minister's official residence.

Saitoti thanked Kaifu for Japan's aid in the areas of education, agriculture, and public works, but indicated a need for more economic assistance in view of the Persian Gulf crisis.

"Since Kenya is also a crude oil importing nation, a sudden increase in crude oil prices will have an effect on our international expenditures," Saitoti told Kaifu.

Kaifu noted that Kenya has long been considered an important recipient of Japanese aid and remarked that Japan would continue giving Kenya a priority position in its aid allocations.

Central Bank Governor on Monetary Policy

OW2908220890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0919 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 29 KYODO—Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said Wednesday the present oil jitters and skittish stock market moves alone will not force a change in the central bank's monetary policy. Asked about news reports that the central bank is going to raise the official discount rate in early September, Mieno said, "I have not determined anything yet at this point."

"I'm carefully watching how the overall situation will develop further in the future," he said, emphasizing his view that the outlook is quite fluid and uncertain.

He also flatly denied press reports that the central bank appears to have already started consultations with the Finance Ministry on hiking the base rate. Two Japanese newspapers said Wednesday that the fifth hike in the official discount rate since May last year will soon take place by a margin of 0.75-1.0 percentage point to drive it to 6 percent or over. The rate now stands at 5.25 percent per annum.

With no near-term solution to the worsening Middle East crisis in sight, speculation has heightened that the Japanese central bank can no longer avoid another increase in its key rate if it wants to head off the inflationary pressure of higher crude oil prices.

In his first press conference in more than a month, Mieno dismissed the impact of high domestic interest rates on the Japanese economy. The high level of rates will not pose a significant threat to the current strong stretch of economic growth, Mieno told reporters.

In an apparent attempt to diffuse a market perception that a rate hike is imminent, he said a decision on a discount rate hike, which may have spillover effects on other countries' monetary steering, will not be made from domestic considerations alone.

External considerations are becoming all the more important when a country changes its monetary policy, Mieno said, brushing aside the growing view that economic policy coordination among the major industrial nations is on the wane.

Asked about the health of the economy in the face of rising oil prices, Mieno said, "If oil prices stay near the current levels, I don't think they will deal a serious blow to the economy in view of its underlying strength."

As reasons for his guarded optimism, Mieno cited the country's successes in increasing energy efficiency since the series of previous oil crises in the 1970s. He also pointed to Japan's more than 130-day stockpile of petroleum.

Japan has drastically reduced its dependence on oil through restructuring its oil-intensive industries, Mieno said.

Asked to comment on the volatile stock market, Mieno described the present state of the trading as "nervous." Also asked if the decline in Tokyo share prices could affect the central bank's near-term monetary policy, Mieno indicated he will give the matter due attention when the time comes to decide on a rate hike.

Mieno acknowledged that factors likely to develop into major inflationary pressure have emerged because of the Middle East crisis. The central bank governor, however, stopped short of making any specific mention of how current circumstances will affect the central bank's future actions on the monetary front.

"The future developments in the Middle East turmoil and possible repercussions on the markets are uncertain," he said.

Responding to a reporter's question about the recent movements in the foreign exchange market, Mieno said he believes the market now appears to be fluctuating between factors favoring the U.S. dollar and those supporting the yen. As usual, he declined to comment on the level of the yen-dollar exchange rate and the outlook for currency transactions.

Despite the once-accepted market belief that the U.S. currency strengthens at times of international tension, it has been changing hands at around the mid-140 yen level.

The dollar finished Tokyo interbank trading at 144.35 yen Wednesday, rebounding 1.15 yen from the previous day's closing rate here. The dollar has continued its steady, but orderly downswing against other major foreign currencies, including its Japanese counterpart in the global currency markets.

Market experts said the dollar's weakness stems largely from general economic malaise in the U.S., as well as higher interest rates in Japan and some West European countries.

The recent trading, they said, reflects persistent expectations that the U.S. Federal Reserve Board will soon lower U.S. rates even further to counteract growing fears that the economy is slipping into stagflation, one of the worst scenarios confronting the U.S. monetary authorities. The possibility has grown rapidly that the U.S. economy may face stagflation—a phenomenon characterized by rising inflation even as overall economic activity slows down.

Mieno indicated that exchange rates and other financial matters may be on the agenda when finance ministers and central bank governors meet in Washington late next month to attend a series of meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

Central Bank Raises Discount Rate to 6 Percent

OW3008035190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0311 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 30 KYODO—Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno on Thursday announced that the central bank has raised the official discount rate by 0.75 percentage point to 6.00 percent, effective immediately, as a preemptive measure to contain budding inflationary pressures.

Mieno, speaking at a hurriedly called press conference, said that by restoring price stability, the action will also contribute to the stability of financial markets and to the sustained expansion of the Japanese economy. The hike in the key rate at which the central bank lends money to commercial banks is the fifth since May last year. In March the rate was raised to 5.25 percent.

The decision, made at an emergency meeting of the BOJ's policy board earlier in the day, is intended to ensure appropriate and flexible monetary responses to the recent economic developments at home and overseas, Mieno told reporters.

These developments include the tightened markets in goods and labor, the high levels of growth of the money supply, and the inflated money market, as well as rising oil prices amid the crisis in the Persian Gulf, he said.

Mieno also indicated that the central bank might have to implement yet another rate hike if the Gulf tension worsens and puts further pressure on the oil market. "The prospects of the Gulf turmoil remain dim. The Bank of Japan is determined to flexibly cope with the changes of the situation," he said.

Asked about the impact on the financial markets, the BOJ governor said he does not believe that the rate hike will deal further damage to the markets. "The markets have already factored higher interest rates," he said. "As we see it, today's markets are very steady."

Mieno also dismissed fears that higher rates will hurt Japan's economic health, saying that on the contrary, the hike will work favorably for the economy by killing inflationary pressures. He said the move will be good not only for the Japanese economy but also for worldwide business activities.

"Given the weight of Japan in the global economy, stable prices here are essential for the economies worldwide," he said.

Mieno was confident that the rate hike will not draw fire from other countries, especially the United States, which analysts say fears higher interest rates in Japan will further dampen its already slowing economy and adversely affect the dollar. "I see it as natural for other governments to understand the necessity of a rate hike in Japan," he said.

Defense Budget Request Reflects Cold War Thaw

OW2408143890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1314 GMT 24 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 24 KYODO—The Japanese Defense Agency on Friday requested a 4.4 trillion yen budget for fiscal 1991 starting next April, but reflected the post-cold war thaw by holding year-on-year increases in the draft budget to 5.84 percent. The Defense Agency indicated a move away from spending on new frontline weaponry to an emphasis on support facilities and equipment.

Agency officials had wanted improved weaponry and complained of higher personnel costs. They had sought a minimum 6 percent rise in defense spending for fiscal 1991, the first year of the next three- or five-year defense plan.

The 5.84 percent increase is the smallest since 1981. The current defense budget that went into effect last April stands at 4.16 trillion yen—an increase of 6.9 percent over the previous year.

Of the 4.4 trillion yen budget, 1.7 trillion yen is earmarked for personnel expenses. This is a 2.5 percent increase on the current year, and accounts for 38.8 percent of the total budget.

A total of 38 billion yen is planned for the construction and renovation of living quarters for Japanese defense personnel, in an effort to recruit young Japanese into the military.

On the frontline equipment wish list are three ships, including an Aegis-equipped destroyer with the multi-target air defense missile system worth 149.6 billion yen, 11 F-15 fighter jets for 104.5 billion yen, and a package of Patriot surface-to-air missiles with a price tag of 110.9 billion yen.

Other requests include 34 type 90 battle tanks at 40 billion yen, indicating a move into high-tech war machinery for the Ground Self-Defense Force.

Friday's budget requests also reflected defense agency plans to admit female students in the National Defense Academy in 1992 and future use of female personnel on ships. The Defense Agency is struggling to recruit young Japanese. It has indicated a plan to increase the number of women serving in the Self-Defense Forces from 3,800 to 5,000. About 35 of the 500 appointees to the National Defense Academy in 1992 will be women, and more than half will be with the Ground Self-Defense Force. Agency officials are planning renovations for the student dormitory so that one floor can house the female students.

Fiscal 1991 Budget Requests Increase 7.4 Percent

OW2508130990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0846 GMT 25 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 25 KYODO—Ministries and agencies have submitted requests for allocations under the fiscal 1991 budget totaling 71.12 trillion yen, an increase of 7.4 percent from the current fiscal year, Finance Ministry officials said Saturday.

After the August 31 deadline for submitting budgetary requests, the ministry will start scrutinizing the proposals to finalize by the year-end a draft budget for the fiscal year, which begins next April 1.

The 7.4 percent increase in budget requests from government offices compares with an actual increase of 9.7 percent in the current fiscal budget.

The budgetary requests are in line with guidelines set by the cabinet on July 27, which allow for ministries and agencies to request budget appropriations in general operating expenditures up 4.4 percent from the current fiscal year to a total of 36.9 trillion yen.

The budget will also include the cost of government bond servicing, which is expected to jump 14.2 percent to 16.32 trillion yen.

Government Advised To Aid Coal Mining Sector

OW2708101190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0903 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 27 KYODO—The Government should continue to support areas of the country that are suffering because of a recession in the coal mining sector, a government advisory panel said Monday.

More aid should be given to the hardest hit areas, while those that have recovered should be removed from the list of aid recipients, the coal mining area development council said.

In a mid-term report on the Government's policy of helping coal mining areas get back on their feet, the council, an advisory panel to the minister of international trade and industry (MITI), called for a review of designated assistance.

There are 19 economic areas and 204 municipal entities that are currently listed as the designated areas under the law on extraordinary measures for the development of coal mining areas. The panel recommended an extension of the law, which is scheduled to expire in November 1991.

For those areas that remain on the list, the Government should provide financial and other economic assistance to boost local industries and economies, it said.

Expanding the spectrum of industries that can receive government aid, the development of industrial and residential complexes, and inviting enterprises to open business in such areas were also proposed. The Government should also pour money into such areas through expanding local public works projects, it said.

BS-3a Satellite Successfully Launched

OW2808143790 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 28 Aug 90

[Text] An H-1 rocket has successfully launched the broadcasting satellite 3a [BS-3a] at 1805 this evening from Tanegashima Space Center in Kagoshima Prefecture. The launch was completed successfully a little while ago when the rocket released the satellite into space. At 1805, the rocket lifted off from the launch pad, and disappeared into the sky to the east with an orange flame.

The launch of the H-1 rocket with the BS-3a was scheduled for 1735 this evening. However, the final preparations had been suspended because of the approach of Typhoon No. 15 in waters southeast of Okinawa, and, finally, the launch was postponed for 30 minutes.

The first and second stages of the rocket separated on schedule, and the satellite separated from the third stage at 1831, about 28 minutes after launch. When the separation was confirmed, applause broke out in the control room, and people in charge of the launch program, including Director Tomifumi Godai, shook hands with each other, feeling relieved.

BS-3a is expected to reach a geostationary orbit at 36,000 km above the Equator in about three months. It will take over NHK satellite broadcasting from Yuri No. 2 satellite, and will transmit the first private satellite broadcasts.

Reportage on Foreign Minister's Visit to Sweden

WA2808115590

For reportage on the visit by Foreign Minister Nakayama to Stockholm, please see the Sweden section of the 28 August West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Mongolia

Beijing Reports Hural To Elect President 3 Sep

OW2908173990 Beijing XINHUA in English 1451 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, August 29 (XINHUA)—The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP) won an overwhelming victory in the July 29 elections, and will continue to be the country's ruling party, the Election Committee announced today.

According to the Election Committee, of the 425 contituencies which were considered valid, the MPRP won 357 or 84 percent of the votes for the country's Great Hural (parliament), together with 61.7 percent of the confidence votes.

The committee said 20 seats went to the Democrats, six to the National Progress, four to the Social Democrats, nine to the Revolutionary Youth League and 29 to non-party members.

MPRP also won 31 of the 50 seats in the Small Hural, a newly-established legislative body.

The newly-elected Great Hural is expected to hold its first session on September 3 to elect the country's president.

Citizens Said Dissatisfied With New Parliament

LD2908104190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0636 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Ulaanbaatar, (ADN)—A few day before the constituent meeting of the newly elected People's Great Hural, 70 percent of citizens questioned in Ulaanbaatar have expressed dissatisfaction with the composition of the parliament. Altogether 73.3 percent spoke in favor of a direct election of the president, who is to be elected by parliament under the current constitution. A good two-thirds of those questioned, of whom one in four belongs to one of the six registered parties, want the parliamentary session on Monday to be transmitted live on Mongolian television.

In the opinion poll, which was carried out by the newly-established methodological research center of the Information Ministry, the majority of people expressed concern over increasing unemployment and crime. Altogether 45.8 percent favored allowing private ownership of the means of production. [passage omitted]

Sharabsambuu Interviewed on Market Economy

OW2908223190 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] The Mongolian Government newspaper carries an interview with the Deputy Chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers Sharabsambuu dealing with the transition over to market economy. He notes that the transition to market relations is significant for creating in the country such an economic system adjusted to consumer production and world economic ties and capable for reproduction. In this transition, Mongolia (?by far) attaches significance to further expansion of the all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and China, conduction [as heard] of an open-door economic policy particularly the establishment of relations with international economic organizations, notes Mr. Sharabsambuu.

North Korea

Efforts To Hold N-S High-Level Talks Continue

List of Delegates Announced

SK3008035290 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0300 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] A name list of the North side's delegates to participate in the North-South High-Level Talks has been announced. The North side's delegation to the North-South High-Level Talks is as follows:
Head of delegation: Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the DPRK State Administration Council.
Delegate: Comrade Kim Kwang-chin, general of the Korean People's Army [KPA].
Delegate: Comrade An Pyong-su, secretary of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland.
Delegate: Comrade Paek Nam-chun, director of the Office of Councillors [chamsasil silchang] of the DPRK Administration Council.
Delegate: Comrade Kim Chong-u, vice minister of the Ministry of External Economic Affairs of the DPRK.
Delegate: Comrade Choe U-chin, ambassador at large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DPRK.
Delegate: Comrade Kim Yong-chol, major general of the KPA.

Working-Level Contacts Held

SK3008123290 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] With regard to the North-South High-Level Talks, a third working-level contact by responsible liaison officers of both sides was held.

The third working-level contact by responsible liaison officers of both sides for the North-South High-Level Talks was held today at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom.

In the contacts, our side handed over the name list of our side's delegates, suite members, and reporters who are to participate in the first North-South High-Level Talks, which will be held in Seoul.

Also in the contacts discussions were held on the schedule of our delegation while staying in Seoul, and an agreement was reached on this.

Hailed by Youth Federation

SK3008044690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—We warmly hail the agreement on holding North-South High-Level Talks as regards the questions of removing the political and military confrontation between the North and the South of Korea and realising multi-faceted cooperation and exchange, says the World Federation of Democratic Youth in a solidarity letter to the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea supporting the Korean people's efforts for reunification.

The North-South High-Level Talks to be participated in by premiers of both sides is a result of the sincere efforts of the Korean people for peace in the country and its peaceful reunification, their cherished desire, and a success made in this course, the letter notes, adding: we hope that this historical talks will register success and contribute to national reconciliation and unity.

21st Anniversary of SKNDF Founding Marked

SK2508102990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1002 GMT 25 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 25 (KCNA)—Papers here today observe the 21st anniversary of the founding of the "South Korean National Democratic Front" (Hanminjon) [SKNDF], a true patriotic vanguard organisation of the South Korean people, on August 25, 1969.

NODONG SINMUN says in an editorial article:

On this occasion, the entire people in the northern half of the country extend fervent congratulations and warm militant greetings to the vanguard fighters of Hanminjon and patriotic people in South Korea who, upholding the banner of the great chuche idea, are daringly fighting for independence, democracy and reunification even under the grim circumstances of South Korea which has been turned into a rowdyism of the military fascist dictatorship.

The 20 odd years covered by Hanminjon were worthwhile years during which it has grown up to be the invincible fighting ranks whose ideological and purposeful unity and cohesion have been established on the basis of the immortal chuche idea, an elastic organisation which has stricken its root deep among the masses and strengthened international solidarity. The period was also a course of worthwhile fight along which it has bravely cut the hard way of the anti-U.S. movement for independence and reunification.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said:

"Today the South Korean people are combining the struggle against fascism and for democracy and the struggle for national reunification closely with the anti-U.S. struggle for independence, thereby advancing along the right path of national liberation."

Great changes are being brought about in the revolutionary movement of South Korea by the patriotic movements of the people of all strata and Hanminjon which put forth a correct fighting programme which reflects the independent demands of the popular masses and are powerfully struggling to put it into practice under the banner of the great chuche idea.

First of all, the number of the followers of the chuche idea is increasing day by day.

It is noteworthy that the anti-U.S. movement of South Korean people for independence and reunification is becoming a flow of the times no force can check.

South Korean people put forward anti-U.S. slogan for independence and reunification and are vigorously struggling for national reconciliation, unity and reunification; it is turning into a movement by majority, not a movement by minority, into a mass movement involving people of all strata, not limited to some strata, and into a struggle to realise the reunification through confederation on the three principles of national reunification, not limited to simple debates.

This change being effected in the South Korean situation thanks to the leadership and influence of Hanminjon upon the mass movement and the active advance of the patriotic people gives great confidence and courage to the national democratic forces for anti-U.S., independence and reunification and deals a telling blow at the anti- reunification splittist forces.

Although the anti-U.S. movement of Hanminjon and patriotic people of South Korea for independence and reunification is confronted with a vicious challenge by the U.S. imperialists and their stooges the No Tae-u military fascist clique, their cause of anti-U.S., independence and reunification is ever-victorious.

An editorial article of MINJU CHOSON says that Hanminjon, together with the popular masses of South Korea, will smash the colonial fascist rule of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges and usher in a dawn of independence, democracy and reunification with nationwide anti-U.S. anti-fascist resistance.

Struggle for Independence, Reunification Urged

SK2508103390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 25 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 25 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate articles to the 25th anniversary of the August struggle of South Korean students and people against the treacherous and aggressive "treaty" signed between the South Korean puppets and the Japanese reactionaries under the manipulation of the U.S. imperialists.

The August struggle of South Korean students and people in 1965 was an anti-imperialist, anti-fascist resistance to smash the aggression of outside forces and traitorous moves of the puppet ruling quarters and defend the sovereignty and dignity of the nation, the news analyst of NODONG SINMUN says, and continues:

Independence and democracy are a trend of the times, but only South Korea remains a colony and military base of the U.S. imperialists, a society of fascist dictatorship.

The U.S. imperialists speak volubly about "disarmament" and "peace" in other places of the world, but work hard for the build-up of aggressive forces only in South Korea and feverishly stage massive nuclear war exercises such as "Team Spirit", bringing the situation on the Korean peninsula to an extreme pitch of strain.

They, setting out the "two Koreas" policy as their main strategy toward Korea, are instigating the South Korean puppets to confrontation and division and persistently obstructing the reunification of Korea.

The Japanese reactionaries who regard South Korea as an important strategic position in realizing their old dream of "the greater East Asia coprosperity sphere", are deeply getting involved in the aggressive moves of war against the northern half of Korea, intensifying military tieup with the South Korean puppets, by taking advantage of the aggressive policy of the U.S. imperialists, and zealously egg the No Tae-u group on to divisive moves.

The No group, actively following the U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression and "two Koreas", beg for a permanent occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialist aggression forces, bearing a greater share of the cost for the maintenance of the aggression forces.

They are desperately attempting to legalize the permanent division of the country through the "northern policy" and "entry into the United Nations" at the instigation of the U.S. imperialists.

The just struggle waged unyieldingly by South Korean students and people clearly shows the high spirit of independence of the Korean nation and its indomitable will and deals a heavy blow to the colonial and military fascist dictatorial "regime".

The South Korean people should fight more vigorously to do away with the colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists, frustrate the reinvasion moves of the Japanese reactionaries, overthrow the No Tae-u fascist dictatorship and accelerate the democratization of society and reunification of the country.

South's Claims of 'Threat From North' Denounced

SK3008062090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0512 GMT 30 Aug 90

["Preposterous Sophism"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the No Tae-u group's claim that South Korea is "inferior to the North in military power".

The news analyst says:

This claim is a shameless gimmick reminding us of the ostrich policy.

In South Korea there are nearly one million-strong puppet Army equipped with latest-type U.S.-made weapons and some ten million para-military personnel and, further, more than 40,000 U.S. troops and 1,000 odd pieces of nuclear weapons.

Most of the main combat units of the U.S. forces and the puppet Army are deployed in the forward area near the military demarcation line and are kept on a stand-by alert so that they can take an action any moment.

Not only once had the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets boasted of their Armed Forces being "powerful military forces that would certainly win at the initial stage of a war". But now they, like a thief crying "stop thief", are vociferating that the North has gained "military supremacy" and deployed the Armed Forces in the forward area and the South is "inferior militarily". This is a preposterous sophism and a crafty trick to render authenticity to their fiction of "threat from the North" and justify their arms buildup.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets must renounce their old policy of strength, accept our disarmament proposal and take steps to reduce the puppet Armed Forces and withdraw the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

Daily Denounces Student Suppression in South

SK3008061490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0516 GMT 30 Aug 90

["More Highhanded Suppression"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the South Korean authorities' suppression of the patriotic students and people who espoused the great chuche idea and made a study of the reality of the northern half of the country.

Recalling that the No Tae-u military fascist clique spread a police dragnet over more than 100 students of 21 universities who published literatures praising the chuche idea and the reality of the North and took some postgraduates into custody, the news analyst says:

It is a wanton violation of the right to freedom, the basic right of man, and an unpardonable treacherous criminal act trampling underfoot the desire of the South Korean students and people to live independently with the advanced idea as their ideal that the South Korean fascist clique is incriminating the advanced idea and checking its study and dissemination.

It is entirely just that the South Korean people sympathize with the chuche idea illumining the road of human emancipation and national independence, study it and disseminate it among the broad sections of masses. Therefore, it has neither reason nor ground to be suppressed.

The No group is trying to maintain and extend its colonial rule for an indefinite period by binding the South Korean people with the chains of the fascist dictatorship, but it is a foolish act.

The puppets' suppression of ideology is a last-ditch effort of those who predicted their doom; it cannot be a way out.

No fascist chains can bind up ideology.

The No group must abolish such fascist evil laws and repressive tools as the "National Security Law" and "Security Planning Board", provide the people with the freedom in choosing, studying and disseminating ideologies and unconditionally release the arrested patriotic students and people.

Democratic Front Supports Rally's Resolutions

SK2908152090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 29 (KCNA)—An enlarged meeting of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Democratic Front for Reunification of the Fatherland [DFRF] was held here today in support of the appeal of the Pan-National Rally for Peace and Reunification of the Country.

It was participated in by presidium members and members of the C.C., the DFRF and officials concerned.

The meeting outlined the historical significance and success of the pan-national rally and expressed support for the resolution and other documents adopted at the rally. It adopted the following decisions in response to the appeal of the rally:

- On encouraging all political parties and social organizations to widely explain and propagate the success of the pan-national rally and its significance in diverse ways such as publication, lecture, explanation, video propaganda and art performance.

- On continuing the struggle to expand and develop independent non-governmental dialogue between all the political parties, groupings and individuals of various circles in the North and the South, pull down the concrete wall built in the area south of the military demarcation line for the dismantlement of the barrier of the division and for free travel and complete opening and abolish the "National Security Law" and other anti-reunification laws of South Korea.

- On invigorating the struggle to get the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons out of South Korea, convert the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone, adopt a peace agreement between the DPRK and the United States and a nonaggression declaration between the North and the South, realise disarmament between the parts and materialise the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo on the basis the three principles of national reunification—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity—so as to promote peace and the self- determined, peaceful reunification of the country.

On fully supporting the "Pan-National Alliance for Reunification" organized at the August 15 pan-national rally to form a nationwide united front for national reunification and strengthening and developing it.

The participants of the meeting sincerely discussed concrete ways and measures to implement these decisions and took relevant steps.

U.S. 'Aerial War Exercise' in South Denounced

SK3008050490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists' Pacific Air Force Command brought into South Korea more than 20 nuclear-capable F-16 fighter-bombers from Misawa Base in Japan from August 24 to 27 and premeditatedly let them fly above Chongup, Sangdong and Yoju in one more nuclear aerial war exercise simulating a preemptive nuclear strike at the strategic depths of the northern half of Korea in coordination with formations of F-16 fighter-bombers belonging to the U.S. Seventh Airforce present in South Korea, according to military sources.

On August 24 the U.S. imperialists hurled formations of Kadena- and Iwakuni-based F-15 fighter-bombers and A-6 assault planes into the Osan Airbase and let them fly in succession above operational zones in an aerial war game for increasing the actual striking capacity.

On August 27 they sent Guam-based KC-135 refueling tanks to the sky above Kunsan and Tokchok-to, South Korea, to stage an aerial refueling exercise for EH-60 electronic warfare helicopters belonging to the U.S. Seventh Airforce in South Korea and to HC-130 relief transport planes from overseas bases.

And on August 24, they mobilized formations of F-16 fighter-bombers belonging to the U.S. Seventh Airforce in a joint air strike exercise for attack on the North in the sky above Chongup, Chechon, Mungyong and Oeyon-to with the support of formations of F-4 and F-5 fighter-bombers belonging to the puppet Airforce.

At the same time, the South Korean puppets drove formations of C-123 transport planes to the sky above Seoul and Sangju on August 24 and 25 to frantically stage a parachuting exercise for infiltrating "commandoes" by surprise into the strategical depths of the northern half of Korea in the event of "contingency."

The number of the planes mobilized in the various aerial war games in the sky above South Korea on August 24 alone totalled more than 500.

All these facts clearly show how desperately the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are trying to increase the danger of war on the Korean peninsula.

U.S. 'Heightens Tension' on Korean Peninsula

SK3008105390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors brought Okinawa-based early-warning plane E-3 into South Korea on August 28 to let it make a shuttle flight from East Sea to the West Sea of Korea along the military demarcation line [MDL] and command the planes mobilized in an aerial military exercise, while committing electronic reconnaissance on strategic interior and aerial objects in th northern half of Korea, according to military sources.

On the 29th, they let U-2 high altitude strategic reconnaissance plane fly along the MDL in an aerial espionage on the depths and main objects in extensive areas of the northern half of Korea in 32 sorties.

Furthermore, RV-1, RC-12, RF-4 and other types of tactical reconnaissance planes made flights in the air above the MDL six or seven times every day for espionage on the main objects in the forward area of our side.

The espionage flights by different planes numbered more than 160 cases during the first 29 days of this month.

This fully reveals that the U.S. imperialists are the very one who heightens tension on the Korean peninsula.

Further on Visit by Chinese Military Delegation

Tours Panmunjom 29 Aug

SK2908152590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1513 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 29 (KCNA)—The Chinese goodwill military delegation led by Colonel General Qin Jiwei, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, state councillor and minister of national Defence of the People's Republic of China, on an official goodwill visit to Korea, visited Panmunjom on August 29.

It was accompanied by O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and minister of People's Armed Forces, and Col. Gen. of the Korean People's Army Yi Pong-won.

The visitors went round the conference room of the Military Armistice Commission.

After it, Qin Jiwei said: The Chinese party, government, people and Army hold that the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea must be solved by the Korean people themselves.

Then, the visitors saw the concrete wall built by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets along the whole length of the military demarcation line.

Noting that he saw the wall with very deep interest, Qin Jiwei declared:

The Chinese party, government, people and Army have consistently supported the reasonable and just proposals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

Departs Pyongyang 30 Aug

SK3008111190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—The Chinese goodwill military delegation headed by Colonel General Qin Jiwei, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Communist Party of China, state councillor and minister of national defence, left for home today by train after paying an official friendly visit to our country at the invitation of the Ministry of People's Armed Forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

A large number of People's Army soldiers sent off the goodwill envoys of the Chinese people and the People's Liberation Army soldiers at Pyongyang railway station.

The delegation was seen off by O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea and minister of People's Armed Forces, General Chon Mun-sop, Colonel Generals Yi Pong-won and Cho Myong-nok and Admiral Kim Il-chol of the Korean People's Army, other personages concerned, Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zheng Yi, a member of the Chinese People's Volunteers [CPV] of the Korea-China side to the Military Armistice Commission [MAC], the chief of the Liaison Office of the CPV to the MAC, and military attaches of the foreign embassies here.

Youth Art Group Leaves for Visit to China

SK3008102590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—A Korean youth art troupe headed by Ham Un-kon, vice-chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], the League of Socialist Working Youth, left here today to take part in 11th Asian Games Art Festival to be held in China.

Youth Delegation Departs for Vietnam, Laos

SK3008102390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—A delegation of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea (LSWYK) headed by chairman of its Central Committee Choe Yong-hae left here today to visit Vietnam and Laos.

It was seen off at the airport by Vice-Chairman of the LSWYK Central Committee Choe Su-il and Vietnamese Ambassador to Korea Nguyen Van Trong.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Malaysian King

SK3008100990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings on August 29 to Malaysian King Sultan Azlan Shah on the occasion of the 33rd anniversary of the independence of Malaysia.

The message wishes the king and the Malaysian people greater success in their work for the prosperity of the country and expresses the belief that the friendly relations between the two countries will further develop.

Sympathy Message Sent to SFRY on Explosion

SK3008105190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council, sent a message of sympathy to Ante Markovic, president of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The message says:

Upon hearing the sad news that an explosion at a coal mine in Tuzla, Yugoslavia, claimed many human lives, I express deep condolences to you and the bereft families of the dead colliers.

Yi Chong-ok, Officials at Reception for Cubans

SK3008053690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—The Ministry of Foreign Affairs gave a reception Wednesday on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Cuba.

Present at the reception were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, and other officials.

Speaking at the reception, Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister, noted that loyalty to the cause of socialism, revolutionary principles and comradely sense of obligation are the main characteristics of the Korea-Cuba relations. These relations are most solid and precious relations which were provided and have long been nursed personally by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the outstanding leader of the Cuban people Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, he said.

It is an urgent requirement of the present international situation to strengthen the friendship and unity between Korea and Cuba in every way, he said, stressing: Our people will share life and death with the Cuban people in the struggle for socialism and, just as they have done over the past 30 years, so in the future, too, will always fight side by side till the day of victory and emerge triumphant together.

Head of the Cuban Foreign Ministry delegation Vice-Minister Oscar Oramas said the two peoples are revolutionary comrades-in-arms and friends who share the same destiny.

Noting that the Cuban Government and people fully support the Korean people's just cause of national reunification, he expressed thanks to the DPRK Government, the Workers' Party and people of Korea for their firm solidarity with the Cuban people's struggle.

Under whatever difficult conditions, Cuba will adhere to its revolutionary principles to the last, he said, and stressed: the Cuban people will fight till the complete victory of socialism.

The peoples of the two countries will surely emerge victorious as long as they are under the wise leadership of Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz and Comrade Kim Il-song, he declared.

Hwang Chang-yop Meets Ecuadoran School Group

SK2908153890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1526 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 29 (KCNA)—Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on August 29 met and had a friendly conversation with the delegation of Central University of Ecuador headed by its President Tiberio Jurado Cevallos.

Present on hand was Yi Chi-su, president of the chuche idea academy.

Kim Sends Trinidad, Tobago President Greetings

SK3008102190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to President Noor Hassanali of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the occasion of the 28th anniversary of the independence of Trinidad and Tobago.

Expressing the belief that the friendly relations between the two countries will further develop, the message wishes the president and the Trinidad and Tobago people great success in their work for the prosperity of the country.

Economic Cooperation Accord Signed With Uganda

SK3008045090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—An agreement on the intergovernmental economic and technological cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Uganda was signed in Kampala on August 21.

It was signed on the Korean side by Chong Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs, and on the Ugandan side by Joshua Mayanja-Nkangi, minister of planning and economic development.

Scientific Assistance Accord Signed With UNDP

SK3008071090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0532 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 30 (KCNA)—An agreement on assistance projects was signed between the DPRK and the UN Development Programme [UNDP].

An agreement was reached here Wednesday on the UNDP modernizing scientific experimental instrument institute of the Hamhung Branch of the Academy of Sciences.

According to the agreement, the UNDP will complete this project in three years.

It was signed by Han Tae-hyok, an official concerned, and Henning Karcher, representative of the UNDP in Korea.

Earlier, an agreement was reached on assistance in a PCM project (pulse cord modulation) for optical fibre communications.

Construction of Tongil Street Buildings Noted

SK2908063090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 25 Aug 90

[Excerpt] This is a news report from the construction site of dwellings in Tongil Street where the flames of a struggle to create a new speed of the nineties are burning fiercely.

Erection of the skeleton of a 25-story dwelling, Buildings Nos. 7-13, in Tongil Street, which is rapidly rising according to the long-term plan of the great leader and our party for construction in the capital city, has been successfully completed.

Central Broadcasting Station Reporter Kim Tok-hwan met with Comrades Kim Ho-kun, commander of a company of the No. 725 Youth Construction Brigade, at the Pyongyang General Textile Plant in charge of constructing Buildings Nos. 7-13; Chong Sun-kap, the company's political guide; and Chon Sung-hun, chief of staff. [passage omitted]

Elevator Production for Tongil Dwellings Pushed

SK2908132190 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Text] According to Comrade Wang Sang-hon, agriculture and labor correspondent, workers and technicians at the Pyongyang elevator plant are now accelerating the production of elevators to be installed in Tongil Street dwellings.

Workers and technicians at the plant, deeply cherishing in their hearts the desire of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who is determined to provide citizens of the capital city new, more culture-oriented living, unswervingly are overfulfilling daily production targets, loudly singing revolutionary and struggle songs.

Members of the work teams in charge of vertical lifts and assemblying the door fittings are overfulfilling daily targets by more than 50 percent, while economizing on materials and labor by introducing new ideas for technical renovations into production.

Fighting members of the processing workshop, too, are now raising their speed of processing parts by more than 20 percent as compared to the previous speed by quickening their work speed in the spirit of national founding and chollima.

National Seminar on Kim Chong-il Leadership Held

SK2908153390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1517 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 29 (KCNA)—A national seminar was held here today on the lapse of 30 years since dear Comrade Kim Chong-il started his leadership activities at Kim Il-song University with a far-reaching plan to make Korea shine all over the world.

Many people made speeches on the subjects "dear Comrade Kim Chong-il's start of leadership activities at Kim Il-song University was a historic event which opened a new stage in the inheritance of the revolutionary cause of chuche," "the noble examples of loyalty shown by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il during his Kim Il-song University days are brilliant paragon in educating the party members and working people to remain chuche-type communist revolutionaries loyal to the leader," etc.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il 30 years ago climbed Yongnam Hill near Kim Il-song University and made a noble pledge to lead Korea toward a bright future, upholding the noble intentions of the great leader President Kim Il-song, noted the speakers, and stressed that since then a new wide road has been opened for the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of chuche and a bright future of prosperous Korea firmly guaranteed.

What is important in the exploits performed by our party is that it defined loyalty to the great leader as the life and soul of a revolutionary and has wisely guided the party members and working people to become chuche-type communists boundlessly loyal and filial to the party and the leader.

They said that dear Comrade Kim Chong-il scientifically formulated the historical position of the revolutionary idea of the great leader, the chuche idea, made a great contribution to the development of the chuche idea and the philosophical thinking and gave a clear exposition of the truth of the distinguished position and role of the leader in the historical development and the revolutionary struggle.

Noting that what is important among the immortal exploits of our party is that it set forth ideas and theories for the party building, they explained the ideas of the building of a party specified by our party including an idea of closely uniting the whole party and the entire people behind the great leader, enhancing the function and role of the party and working people's organizations and strengthening the organizational life and of realising unity and cohesion based on the revolutionary idea of the great leader.

The speakers elaborated on the ideas of economic management, literature and art, theory on history, military and overseas compatriot movement, which are feats achieved by our party.

They stressed that the revolutionary cause of chuche in our country is now making a dynamic advance along a new road of worthy creation and construction under the wise guidance of the party.

The seminar was attended by Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea; Chang Chol, vice- premier of the Administration Council; officials concerned as well as functionaries in education, science, literature and art and the press and the party cadre training institutions.

Choe Tae-pok Attends Honor Students' Conference

SK2708224890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 27 (KCNA)—A national conference of honour students of senior middle schools was held over August 26-27 in Pyongyang.

It was attended by Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Chang Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council, and other officials concerned.

Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, made a report at the conference, to be followed by speeches of many honour students.

The reporter and speakers pointed out that the great leader President Kim Il-song introduced the universal compulsory secondary education system, the universal compulsory nine-year technical education system and the universal compulsory eleven-year education system, as required by the developing revolution and wisely guided the work to enforce them. Notably, he published "Theses on Socialist Education," a programme of communist education, clearly indicating the way of our education, they added.

They noted that a greater progress is being made in the education of school children in Korea under the wise guidance of the party.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il stressed the need to improve the quality of the universal compulsory eleven-year education in his classical work "On Further Developing Educational Work" and has provided all conditions and made sure that collective innovation is made in studies through mass movements, they said.

They recalled that as a result of the vigorous efforts of the students to improve their school records, nearly 3,000 students of senior middle schools received "July 15 full-mark prize" and about 200 classes had the honour of becoming model classes of "July 15 full-mark prize" recipients over the three years or more since the start of the "July 15 full-mark prize" movement,

The reporter and speakers said it is entirely thanks to the wise leadership of President Kim Il-song and our party that the question of training and educating pupils and school children has been completely solved and the study- first policy successfully carried through in our country.

They said the pupils and school children should effect a new innovation in their study.

The meeting adopted an appeal to the members of the League of Socialist Working Youth and Children's Union of the senior middle schools throughout the country.

The appeal says:

Under the revolutionary motto "Let us study for Korea" the pupils and school children should direct efforts to mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology and other subjects of basic science and foreign languages and acquire more than one kind of basic technological knowledge and skill and cultivating the capacity of writing. The number of the winners of honorable "July 15 full mark prize" should be increased by continue to vigorously conducting the "July 15 full mark prize" movement whose validity and vitality has been proved in practice and this movement be expanded to a movement for "July 15 full mark prize" model school and model class.

Memorial Service Held for Revolutionary Fighter

SK2508110990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1047 GMT 25 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 25 (KCNA)—A memorial service was held at the People's Palace of Culture this afternoon to mark the 60th anniversary of death of Comrade Kim Hyok, a communist revolutionary fighter.

It was attended by Yi Chong-ok and Pak Song-chol, members of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], and other senior officials.

Choe Kwang, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the WPK and chief of the general staff of the Korean People's Army, made a memorial address.

He recalled the brilliant career of Kim Hyok, a young communist, revolutionary poet and anti-Japanese revolutionary fighter, who added shine to the Korean revolution at its dawn with his unfailing loyalty to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and devoted service for the revolutionary cause.

Born into a peasant family in North Pyongan Province on October 11, 1907, Kim Hyok made up his mind to fight against Japanese imperialism and travelled various places at home and abroad to find a true way of struggle, but he wandered about in vain because there was not correct guidance of an outstanding leader to him.

At last, he joined the anti-Japanese revolutionary ranks, following the guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

With particular trust and care of Comrade Kim Il-song, Kim Hyok worked as a hardcore of the Anti-Imperialist Youth League and the Young Communist League of Korea. He became a member of the first organization of the glorious party, chief editor of the revolutionary publication "BOLSHEVIK" and a commanding officer of the Korean Revolutionary Army, the first armed organization of the Korean communists. While making energetic activities to carry out the chuche-oriented line of the Korean revolution in Haenbin area, he died a heroic death in an unexpected clash with the enemy on August 25, 1930.

Kim Hyok was a paragon of communist revolutionary soldiers who highly praised the leader of the revolution and remained loyal to his guidance in the early days of the Korean revolution, Choe Kwang noted, and stressed:

The young communists including Kim Hyok safeguarded Comrade Kim Il-song at the cost of their lives in the belief that his safety is linked with the destiny of the Korean revolution. It is thanks to their devoted struggle and noble loyalty that the Korean revolution has vigorously advanced from victory to victory for more than 60 years since its outset under the unitary guidance of the great leader, with him at the head of the revolution.

KCNA Expounds Upon Beauty of Kumgang Region

SK2708224290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1459 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 27 (KCNA)—Sea Kumgang is part of Mt. Kumgang which consists of three mountains of scenic beauty.

The east of Taebaek range is called Outer Kumgang, the west Inner Kumgang and the sea and islets in the East Sea Kumgang.

Inner Kumgang is womanly with Manpok and other valleys boasting of their beauty that caps the graceful view, while outer Kumgang is manly with Manmulsang and Chipson Peak and many other peaks representing mountainous grandour and ravines having falls of majestic scenic beauty.

Sea Kumgang boasts of such mirror-like lake as Lagoon Samil and seascape.

Renowned worldwide for its wonderful view Lagoon Samil of oval shape elongated from the North to the South covers 760 square metres and its width is 4,500 metres.

More beautiful is the scenery around the pine tree islet. About 50 metres high above the sea, the islet is made up of the Sagong (ferryman) Rock, Chilsong Rock, Ingo (carp) Rock, Olgul (face) Rock and other big and small rocks lying in harmony with each other. Pine trees which have dug their mighty roots deep into strange-shaped rocks add beauty to the islet.

Sea Manmulsang that soars high above the sea makes Sea Kumgang more beautiful. Beaten by rain, wind and wave, Sea Manmulsang looks like that of Outer Kumgang of myriad-shaped rocks.

More wonderful is Manmulsang under the sea. Peaks, rocks, valleys, seaweeds, shoals of fishes—all these remind us of the dragon's palace.

Sea Kumgang teems with red snappers, spanish mackerels, mussels, sea cucumbers, octopuses, sea urchins and many other fishes.

Sea Kumgang is a sightseeing place well known worldwide.

Daily Hails Chuche Idea as Basis of Socialism

SK2808072190 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1015 GMT 21 Aug 90

[NODONG SINMUN 21 August special article: "The Chuche Idea Is Basic Source of Superiority and Might of our Socialism"]

[Text] Today, socialism in our country is solid politically and ideologically, and shines as superior and vital socialism under which all domains are developing in conformity with the hopes and desires of the working people and masses.

Our socialism is a peculiar and superior socialism, a promising socialism which gives conviction of victory and courage to people because it has been built and developed, guided by the great chuche idea.

Reality has clearly proved that the chuche idea, which our socialism assumes as an ideological foundation, is a mighty weapon which makes it possible to tenaciously safeguard the socialist cause of our era and to accomplish it to the end.

1. The chuche idea is a powerful ideological and theoretical foundation which makes it possible to build the most superior socialism with vitality.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the party Central Committee, has pointed out: The ideology, theory and method of chuche founded by the great leader are the most correct guiding idea, theory and method for building socialism and communism in our era.

Socialism is a society based on the revolutionary idea of the working class and the development of socialism can be ensured by the scientific, revolutionary and realistic nature of the ideology and theory on which socialism is based.

Socialism which is built on the basis of correct ideology and theory enables one to highly demonstrate one's vitality, even in the fierce struggle against various enemies and enables one to advance victoriously without the slightest degree of deviation and vicissitudes.

The struggle of the popular masses for socialism is to be constantly deepened and their circumstances of struggle are to change. This demands that the revolutionary idea of the working class be constantly developed and perfected. Just as stagnation and stalemate should not be allowed to take place in the revolution and construction, a standstill should not be allowed to take place in the work for development and perfection of ideology and theory.

Only when one has the correct ideology and theory corresponding to the changed circumstances of the era, can one maintain the revolutionary principle of the working class and successfully resolve the issue of preserving the dignity of socialism and the issue of demonstrating the absolute superiority of socialism over capitalism by creatively developing the revolution and construction.

Entering our era, a historic turning point has been effected in the struggle for the cause of emancipation of mankind and for the socialist and communist cause. The independence, creativity and consciousness of the popular masses—the main force of the revolution—have been drastically enhanced and their position and role in social development have greatly changed.

Such new historic circumstances demand that the theory and method of revolution be developed to a higher stage. The immortal chuche idea created by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has reflected such historic circumstance and demand. Thus, it has become a banner illuminating the most correct path for perfection of the socialist cause in our era.

This revolutionary idea comprehensively includes experiences and theories accumulated in the course of a long revolutionary struggle of the working class for independence and clearly shows all ideas, theories, and methods that enable one to accomplish the socialist and communist cause to the end.

The chuche idea, which attained a high stage in the development of the revolutionary idea of the working class, is consistent with continuity and thoroughgoing creativity. Herein lies the greatness of the chuche idea and its historic position and great vitality.

The chuche idea has become a correct ideological and theoretical foundation for socialism of our era because it elucidates, above all, the new, man-centered philosophical idea. The struggle for socialism is the struggle for the emancipation of mankind. Only when men are considered important beings and are made to be powerful and have a dignified existence, can the lofty ideal of socialism be realized.

The progressive and scientific nature of the revolutionary idea, which serves as the ideological and theoretical foundation of socialism, is to be defined according to how clearly it shows the path of pioneering the destiny of humankind.

The chuche idea is a thoroughly man-centered philosophical idea. By clarifying the philosophical principle that man is the master of everything and decides everything, the chuche idea gives the most correct answer to the matter of the position and role of man in the world, and makes clear the intrinsic lawfulness of the sociohistorical movement whose subject is the working masses.

Thus, the chuche idea has become a genuine philosophical outlook, which corresponds to today's era when the position and role of the popular masses have been remarkably enhanced, and a correct ideological and theoretical foundation for socialist construction.

It is an important demand of the chuche idea that all problems raised in the socialist construction should be dealt with by regarding man as the center of everything and everything should be resolved based on the principle of thoroughly serving men—the popular masses.

The chuche idea demands that the level and nature of social development be evaluated based on the position and role of the popular masses and on the degree of preparedness for such development, and that, even if the material assets are to be increased, these assets should be increased in conformity with the popular masses' desire to enjoy the worthwhile life equally all together.

Therefore, only when the chuche idea is assumed as the ideological and theoretical foundation, can the genuine socialist society be built, in which the dignity and personality of the popular masses are respected and the welfare of all members of society is constantly enhanced.

Today it is clearly proved that by only stressing the material- centered idea and productivity, one cannot achieve the essential aim of socialism and communism for complete emancipation of men, nor can one successfully carry out the work of increasing the material assets itself.

History and reality have shown that only socialism, which develops based on the man-centered principle and theory, can demonstrate great vitality and win the absolute support and trust of the popular masses.

The chuche idea constitutes the correct ideological and theoretical foundation of socialism in our era, then, because it propounds a perfect revolutionary theory of communism.

Today the socialist revolution is carried out and socialist construction is advanced in many nations. The international working class has already attained numerous experiences in the course of a long struggle for socialist construction. Included in these experiences are not only the experiences in the success of the socialist revolution and construction, but also precious experiences gained while enduring various trials and vicissitudes.

All these experiences and lessons serve as the foundation for perfecting the theory of communist revolution. The historic task in our era for perfecting the theory of communist revolution by popularizing practical experiences in the socialist construction has been brilliantly resolved by the chuche-based revolutionary theory created by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

The chuche-based revolutionary theory of communism is a revolutionary theory which is evolved centering on the working masses and a revolutionary strategy and tactics based on their role.

Perfectly clarified in this theory are the theories of the anti- imperialist national liberation revolution, the antifeudal democratic revolution and the socialist revolution. These have been systematized in a unique way and the look of communist society, the lawful course of building it and fighting policies and programs in all spheres of the revolution and construction have been perfectly clarified.

The truth and vitality of all these revolutionary theories have been fully confirmed through the practical struggle of our revolution, and their driving force has been enhanced with each passing day.

Thanks to the chuche-based revolutionary theory of communism, the problem of the transitional period and proletariat dictatorship, the problem of building a socialist society with complete victory, the problem of continued revolution toward socialism and communism and numerous other important and principled problems have been correctly explained and understood.

Today, our people firmly believe that the revolutionary theory which made it possible to advance and perfect the socialist cause along the straight and victorious path without the slightest degree of vicissitudes is the only theory on the socialist and communist revolution elucidated by the chuche idea.

The chuche idea constitutes the correct ideological and theoretical foundation of socialism in our era, also because it gives a new exposition of the method of leadership over the building of socialism and communism.

The struggle for socialism is a highly organized and conscious struggle in which a broad range of popular masses actively participate with lofty creative zeal under the leadership of the party and the leader. The issue of the method of leadership over the masses, therefore, is to emerge as a vital demand in the entire course of building socialism and communism.

Even if the aspiration to socialism is clear and its theory is formulated, one cannot build superior socialism without the correct method of leadership.

Today, when the building of socialism has been deepened, only the revolutionary idea which gives a comprehensive exposition of the method of leadership, as well as its ideology and theory, and which assumes the method of leadership as its important constitution, can be a powerful ideological and theoretical weapon.

The chuche-based method of leadership created by the great leader is a perfect method of leadership, which gives a new exposition of all issues raised in leading the revolution and construction, including the principle of leadership, work method, and [word indistinct].

In particular, the creation of the great leader-style work method is of great significance in brilliantly resolving and comprehensively accomplishing the issue of the method of leadership in building socialism and communism.

When we advance by firmly grasping this powerful work method, we can realize the firm unity among the leader, the party and the masses, can embody the principle of socialism in all domains and can comprehensively display the superiority of socialism.

The chuche method of leadership is a scientific and revolutionary method of leadership which makes it possible to build a genuine socialism to which the popular masses aspire, a sound socialism in which there is no bureaucracy, in which the leadership and the masses are closely combined with each other, in which all members of society are educated and remolded along communist lines and in which everything develops on the collective principle.

Indeed, the chuche idea, which systematized the man-centered philosophical ideology—the perfect theory on communist revolution—and the method of leadership is the great banner which makes it possible to accomplish the socialist cause of our era to the end.

Because we had such a great revolutionary idea, we could resolve the issue of consolidating and developing the ideological foundation of socialism in a most brilliant way, and we are displaying the honor of proud people who are successfully pioneering the unexplored path of socialism at the vanguard of the era.

2. The greatness and enormous vitality of the chuche idea, which is the correct ideological and theoretical foundation of socialism in our era, have been fully displayed in the practical struggle to build socialism of our own form.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the party Central Committee, has indicated: The entire course of the Korean revolution has been a course of embodying the chuche idea and the embodiment of the chuche idea has been a basic key to consolidating and developing our socialism into the most superior socialism.

The glorious history of our revolution and struggle has been the history of struggle to embody the chuche idea. The origin of our socialism was opened by the chuche idea and its victorious advance has been made by assuming the chuche idea as the guiding line.

All victories and successes attained in socialist construction of our country are a precious fruition brought about by the chuche idea and the characteristics and might of our socialism have been defined totally based on the chuche idea. Because we struggled by taking the great chuche idea, not any other idea, as the ideological and theoretical foundation, we could tenaciously defend the revolutionary principle of the working class in the course of arduous revolutionary struggle and created today's proud realities that are called by the world's people an example of socialism and a special socialism.

Today, the superiority of our socialism is highly demonstrated in all domains of revolution and construction. The basic superiority of our socialism which embodies the chuche idea is that it is a man-centered society and regards man as a most precious being and makes everything serve man.

Our socialism excellently embodies the essential demand of man as an independent social being. Man, an independent social being, demands that he live independently and develop himself by freeing himself from various subjugations and restrictions.

The social movement is a movement designed to realize the independence of the popular masses, and social development means deepening of the struggle to realize the independence of the popular masses.

The basic factor in realizing the independence of the popular masses is to thoroughly ensure the social and political independence and the independent rights of man. The independent right, which is as precious as life to a man—a social being—can be comprehensively ensured only under socialism.

Today in our country, all the people glorify the genuine dignity and value of social men [saheojok ingan] as masters of the state and society and majestically exercise the independent rights.

Every one of our people freely enjoys precious political life as a member of a social and political group and participating in management of the state as masters. This is the unique superiority of our society, and which cannot be even contemplated in the capitalist society where basic human rights are cruelly trampled underfoot and the absolute majority of popular masses are excluded from political life.

A society that cannot fully ensure the basic rights of social life, including the right to work, for all members of society, and which gives unlimited freedom to the enemy of the revolution, one that denies even the class nature of the socialist countries while advocating freedom and democracy for all people, cannot be, in fact, said to be socialist society.

The freedom advocated by the imperialists is the freedom which only rich men can enjoy and is the freedom pursuing only personal interest. This freedom will only result in confusing and corrupting the society and in hindering the popular masses from fulfilling the responsibility and role of masters of the state and society.

The realities clearly proved that only socialism which has embodied the chuche idea can guarantee the most valuable and dignified life of social man, who regards independence as his life.

Our socialism has excellently embodied the essential demand of man as a creative social being. Man is a social being who assumes creativity, along with independence, as its essential character. He demands, therefore, that he not only live and develop independently, but that he also live and develop creatively.

The course of constantly enhancing such creative ability and the role of the popular masses is the very course of development of socialist society.

From the outset, socialism can be maintained, consolidated and developed only by the voluntary zeal and creative might of the popular masses, who became the masters of the state and society. Without the work of enhancing the creative ability of the working masses, one cannot think of the genuine superiority of socialism. Seeking the basic factor for social development only from objective conditions, and regarding man as a being dominated by material and economic conditions, not as a mighty being with creative ability, is contrary to the principle of socialist construction. This position will only result in introducing capitalist methods.

Today, our country is directing enormous strength to the work of displaying the endless creative might of the popular masses. Our society has no social factor repressing the creative ability of the popular masses.

All activities of the party and the state are carried out in such a way as to enhance the creativity of the popular masses by thoroughly relying on them. The work in all domains, including educational, cultural, arts, public health, scientific and technological, are focused on fostering men into a mighty being with sound ideas and consciousness, modern scientific and technological knowledge, rich cultural attainments, and healthy physical strength.

The significance in having thoroughly overcome bureaucratism in our country is that socialism with vitality, in which the creative might of the popular masses is highly demonstrated, has been built.

As taught by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, functionaries' pursuit of bureaucratism is like drinking poison, and deeply mingling with the people is the same as drinking a tonic.

Today in our country, such an erroneous work method as handing out an order and directive to the masses irrespective of their intentions, and ignoring the desire and demand of the masses, has been thoroughly eliminated. All functionaries of the party and the state are always working and living with the popular masses as their servants by deeply mingling with them.

Thus, in our country, the party, the people, functionaries and workers are successfully carrying out the gigantic tasks of socialist construction as a united body.

A number of large-scale creations, including Kwangbok Street, Youth Street, and Sohae lockgate, have been built rapidly. This is a miracle that can be created only in our society where the masses' creative might is highly displayed.

Our socialism is the socialism in which the consciousness of man as a conscious social being is being demonstrated at the highest level. As was elucidated in the chuche idea, ideological awareness plays the decisive role in all conscious and practical activities of man.

The basic factor for victory and success in the revolutionary struggle is the organized strength of the masses who are armed with revolutionary ideological awareness. This is proven by the fact that victory was won in the revolution even in the countries where objective and material conditions were not fully matured.

The decisive strength inspiring social development lies in the revolutionary idea of the popular masses. Therefore, priority should be given to the work of reforming ideology so that the revolution and construction are accelerated.

Today, the imperialists are viciously maneuvering to make the popular masses mentally disabled by infiltrating corrupt bourgeois ideas and to demolish the ideological foundation of socialism. Under these circumstances, the ideological indoctrination work for workers has emerged as an important demand.

There is always ideological confrontation in the foundation of confrontation between progress and reaction and between revolution and antirevolution. Therefore, unless strength is directed to the indoctrination work for men, one cannot smash various antirevolutionary and antisocialist offensives nor can one display the decisive superiority of socialism over capitalism.

In our country, the ideological revolution, a most active method of reforming men's ideology, has been vigorously carried out, beginning a long time ago. As a result of this, the struggle to occupy the ideological fortress, one of the most difficult goals in socialist and communist construction, is being carried out at a high stage and the main force of our revolution has been unprecedentedly strengthened.

Today, the level of our people's ideological awareness is very high, and the trait and work style of the struggling people and struggling era are overflowing in the entire society. Our people have taken the chuche idea—our party's revolutionary idea—as their firm faith and regard the struggle by dedicating everything to the party, the revolution, the fatherland and the people as a great pride.

Even today, when decades have elapsed since the socialist revolution won victory and the socialist system was founded, all the people are working in a revolutionary manner with a lofty militant and revolutionary spirit and are continuing innovations and the march. This is the pride of our society, and herein lies the might and solidness of our socialism.

Our socialism, built under the banner of the chuche idea, has excellently embodied the collectivist demand of man as a social being. Man as a social being can excellently pioneer his destiny only within a social group. He therefore assumes collectivism as his essential demand. Nothing is more valuable for man than to live for the social group.

Collectivism, which corresponds to the essential demand of man as a social being, turned into a class ideology only after the working class appeared in the stage of history. Thus, collectivism became a ruling ideology of socialist society.

The indomitable might and essential superiority of socialism over capitalism lie in the fact that socialism is based on collectivism. Socialism takes collectivism as its essential characteristic. One should advance socialism, therefore, along the path of strengthening collectivism. Actual experience shows that if one weakens collectivism instead of strengthening it, and instead strengthens individualism, one cannot develop socialism on a firm foundation nor can one maintain socialism itself.

By having embodied the chuche idea, we were able to build excellent socialism on this land which is comprehensively ruled by collectivism.

Our society is a society that takes collectivism as its life, and it is a sound and revolutionary society where a corrupt and degenerate life style, of pursuing only individual pleasure and indolence, cannot take place or infiltrate.

All issues raised in the revolution and construction, including strengthening the political system, improving the economic system, and highly displaying the creativity of the popular masses, are being resolved thoroughly on the basis of the principle of collectivism. This clearly proves the revolutionary nature of our society.

In particular, that the entire society turned into a solid united body between the leader, the party and the masses is the most proud countenance of socialism in our country in which collectivism is embodied.

Today, all the people are firmly rallied behind the party and the leader ideologically, morally, and with one will, and are advancing by upholding the leader of the revolution while helping and leading each other.

It is the peerless pride of our people that we remodeled the entire society on the monolithic color and realized the most solid unity and cohesion with the party and the leader as their center. Because we have such great unity and cohesion, our socialism will be ever-victorious forever without wavering in any storm.

Indeed, our socialism, in which the chuche idea has been embodied, is the man-centered socialism which totally corresponds to the essential demand of man, a social being. It is superior socialism which has caused to bloom the ideal ardently pursued by men for several thousand years.

Thanks to the creation of the great realities of socialism, the chuche idea has been officially recognized as a correct guiding idea for socialist construction of our era, and its driving force is growing greater with each passing day.

3. The proud realities, in which the great chuche idea has been brilliantly embodied, give an endless national pride and prestige.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Our people chose the path of socialism based on their faith, and successfully built socialism with our own strength. We are proud of this.

The success we have won in the course of building superior socialism of our own form under the banner of socialism is indeed great. In the short period of over 40 years since we began building a new society, we have made social and economic progress which cannot be made in several hundred years under capitalism. We have opened a comprehensive flowering era in all domains, including political, economic and cultural.

The success we have won in socialist construction is the success attained while pioneering the unexplored road toward socialism with our own strength, and is the success we have realized under most difficult conditions, in which we had to firmly defend the revolution against the military threat and economic blockade by the imperialists.

This great victory and success gave confidence in and optimism for socialism, as well as rich experiences and lessons, to the people who are carrying out the revolution. The realities of our superior socialism are teaching a precious truth that the greatness of the guiding ideology and indomitable nature of socialism totally depend on the greatness of the leader.

The revolutionary idea and theory of the working class cannot be put forward by everyone, even if these are demanded by reality. This idea and theory can be created only by a leader of the working class with outstanding wisdom. Only the outstanding leader of the working class can put forward a new idea and theory based on his deep insight into the demands of the time and aspirations of the popular masses and by popularizing the experience in the revolutionary movement. Thus, a progressive society has been built with the realization of the new idea and theory in the practical situation. This is truth already proven by the long history of the international communist movement.

We have been able to build the most superior socialism based on the great chuche idea and theory because we highly upheld the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song, an outstanding ideological theoretician and activist.

The great leader created the immortal chuche idea at an early date by summing up the demand of the era of independence and desire of the popular masses and brilliantly embodied it. Thus, he attained rich practical experiences and precious achievements in all domains of revolution and construction.

Without the refined leadership of the respected leader who led the chuche cause at the van of the people for over 60 years with energetic research and struggle without sleep or rest, we cannot think of having the chuche idea, the great revolutionary idea which represents the present era and the future of communism, nor can we speak of man-centered socialism which we have built and which the communists and people aspired to.

The greatness of the ideology, theory, and method of chuche is synonymous with the greatness of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, and the glorious honor and dignity that our socialist fatherland of chuche enjoys today are precisely the lofty prestige of the great leader. This is why our people, as well as the revolutionary people of the world, consider the chuche idea along with the esteemed name of the respected and beloved leader.

The greatness of the guiding ideology, the invincibility of socialism, rests with the greatness of the leader. So for those people carrying out the revolution, there is no greater honor than to hold in high esteem their outstanding leader. The faith in socialism of the communists and the people constitutes precisely the stand and attitude toward the leader who pioneered the cause of socialism. Because of this, the revolutionaries who are faithful to socialism wage a principled struggle without exception, deeming it their important requirement to defend the prestige of the leader from enemy attack and to glorify the leader's achievements. Without having such stand and attitude one cannot defend the purity of socialism nor can one vigorously demonstrate its superiority.

Because they have deeply realized this through the practical experiences in their protracted revolutionary struggle, our people jump into fire and water on the road of advancing forward, upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and following the leadership of the party. As the revolutionary cause of chuche progresses and as the superiority of our socialism is enhanced, faith in the party and the leader—our people's determination to uphold the leader of the revolution—becomes firmer.

The reality of our socialism which develops under the banner of the chuche idea gives us the precious lesson that the party, the general staff of the revolution, plays a decisive role in defending and embodying the revolutionary ideology of the working class. In socialist construction, objective circumstances or conditions cannot be absolute. Objective circumstances have influences on the implementation of the revolutionary cause only to a certain degree, and can turn even unfavorable circumstances into favorable ones. However, the problem rests with how the party, which leads the socialist cause of the country in the front, struggles. However favorable objective circumstances may be and however outstanding the people of the country may be, without the party's tested leadership, the socialist cause cannot be advanced even one step, nor can all difficulties be surmounted.

What is most important in the leading traits of the revolutionary party which victoriously advances the socialist cause in the present era is to prepare the ability and qualification to creatively develop the revolutionary ideology and theory while resolutely defending the revolutionary stand of the working class. All theoretical activities and practical activities of our party which has adopted the chuche idea as its guiding principle are characterized by creativity and uniqueness.

Our party has resolutely struggled against the tendency of unconditionally giving prominence to previous theories or unconditionally following them or others' experiences. It has firmly adhered to the chuche-oriented stand of establishing all lines and policies in conformity with the specific situation of our country. The line of modeling the whole society after the chuche idea, the line of vigorously carrying out the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—while strengthening the people's government, the line of embodying the Taean work system, the Chongsan-ri spirit, and the Chongsan-ri method, and other revolutionary lines—which have become a precious guideline in strengthening the might of our country's socialist system and in enhancing its superiority—are a brilliant result of our party's creative ideological and theoretical activities.

As long as there exists our party's leadership that shines with creative wisdom, our socialist cause will be invariable even amid any arduous vortex of history and will advance victoriously while invariably adhering to its chuche-oriented stand.

Our reality in which the most superior socialism has been built under the banner of the chuche idea also teaches us the precious lesson that the communists and the people should unfold principled struggle against all sorts of antisocialist and counterrevolutionary trends which run counter to the flow of the times. The struggle for the victorious advance of the socialist cause always requires the uncompromising struggle against all sorts of antisocialist ideological trends. The antisocialist ideological offensives by the imperialists and reactionary forces have been always tenacious and vicious; they were tenacious and vicious when socialism appeared in the world for the first time, and they were so even when it was expanded worldwide.

Without countering such antisocialist ideological offensives with revolutionary ideological offensives and without smashing the antisocialist ideological offensives, we cannot build socialism with a solid ideological foundation, that is to say, a superior socialism in which the popular masses' independence has been achieved.

The ideological trends which are being disseminated by the imperialists or being revived under their patronage today are permeated all the way with the schemes designed to beautify and embellish capitalism, to reject the leadership of the party of the working class, and to paralyze the people's sound ideological consciousness, regardless of the form of their expression. Freedom and democracy that the imperialists, who are the enemies of socialism, are clamoring about cannot become genuine freedom and democracy for the people carrying out socialist construction, and assistance that the capitalist class is talking about is not the assistance to sincerely aid the countries carrying out the revolution. This is too evident. This notwithstanding, giving ear to the imperialists' false propaganda and allowing the infiltration of capitalist ideology constitutes the act of surrendering to imperialism.

Since the first day of leading the socialist cause our party has clearly realized the reactionary nature of the ideological trends disseminated by the imperialists and reactionary forces and has resolutely struggled to prevent the trends from infiltrating into our society. In a nutshell, we can say that the history that has built the most sound and revolutionary socialism of our way is the history of the struggle which has been advanced, smashing all sorts of antisocialist ideological offensives with revolutionary ideological offensives.

We will, in the future, too, resolutely struggle against all sorts of unsound ideological trends disseminated by the imperialists and the antisocialist forces on the road of building socialism and communism and will consummate to the end the socialist cause with our ideology, the revolutionary chuche idea.

Today, we are faced with the heavy task to more vigorously demonstrate the superiority of our socialism in all fields, upholding the policy speech of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. The struggle to carry out this historic task is not only a struggle for our country's prosperity and for our people's happiness, but is also a honorable and rewarding task to perform the lofty mission assigned to us for mankind's cause of independence, the socialist cause.

Today, genuine revolutionaries and the progressive people highly praise the fact that we are building a most superior socialism under the banner of the chuche idea. They express great confidence in and expectations from our party and people who have invariably adhered to the revolutionary principle. We will, in the future, too, deeply realize our mission assigned before history and the times and will be faithful to the socialist cause of chuche to the end. At the same time, we will struggle, devoting our all, to build more outstanding socialism on this land.

An infinitely bright prospect has been unfolded on the path of our revolution which is advancing, holding the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song in high esteem and following the leadership of the glorious party. We have the immortal chuche idea which is the most correct guiding ideology of socialist and communist construction and the superior socialist system in which the chuche idea has been brilliantly embodied. We have also the revolutionary ranks of single-hearted unity which have been firmly united around the party and the leader.

All party members and the working people should effect a new upsurge in socialist construction by continuing advance and continuing innovation with the high dignity and honor of their leader, party, guiding ideology, and system and with firm faith in victory.

South Korea

More on Efforts To Hold N-S High-Level Talks

Presidential Adviser Comments

SK2908084090 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 27 Aug 90 p 3

[Interview with Yi Hong-ku, special adviser to president for political affairs, by Yi Kyong-hyong, deputy chief of the political desk: "North Will Come to 'Prime Ministerial Talks' Without Fail"; place, date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted]

[Kyong-hyong] The first round of full-dress South-North high- level talks is scheduled to be held in Seoul on 4 September. Despite the agreement on 23 August between the liaison officials of the South and North that the North side's delegation will come to Seoul by means of ground transportation, many are still unconvinced that the talks will materialize. What do you think?

[Hong-ku] Up until now, almost every time it has been North Korea's whim that decided whether to hold the South-North talks. Since our side is so determined to push for the talks, the high- level talks will materialize if the other side is willing; if it is not, the talks will fall through. The prospect for summit talks is no exception. In the North are two sets of opinion on talks with the South. The first is the opinion of a force that is basically unhappy about holding talks with the South, as observed in the course of responding to our 20 July proposal for inter-Korean exchange and of holding the pan-national rally. The second is the opinion of a force that is determined not to miss the opportunity to discuss the political and military issues between the South and North, which it has long insisted on discussing.

In my opinion, North Korea will come to the talks this time around since its refusal to take part in the prime ministerial talks will greatly undermine its international standing and also because it finds the prime ministerial talks necessary to promote its strategy toward the South.

[Kyong-hyong] North Korea is torn considerably between the Soviet pressure and the chuche idea it intends to defend, is it not? In what way is such a discord reflected in its strategy toward the South and in the South-North talks?

[Hong-ku] Seen in a broader view, North Korea seems to find it necessary to adapt itself to the changes in socialism. The mainstream in North Korea, however, seems to be refusing to do so. This mainstream force in North Korea seems to think that accommodating itself to the changes runs greater risk than resisting them. So, internally, North Korea is intensifying its control of people, saying: "We do everything our own way," while, externally, stubbornly pursuing the lines of a united front strategy.

On our part, we should continue, with consistency, our effort toward dialogue and, at the same time, keep bringing pressure on North Korea to open up. Also, we should not have any dramatic expectation in regard to results of Soviet pressure on North Korea.

[Kyong-hyong] Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze reportedly will visit Pyongyang on 9 September after concluding his visit to Japan. Do you believe that he will pressure North Korea to open up?

[Hong-ku] Foreign Minister Shevardnadze went to Pyongyang last year, too. His visit this time should be seen primarily as a mission to reassure the alliance between the Soviet Union and North Korea, not as one to bring pressure to bear on it. He also is expected to explain to North Korea the new tenor of Soviet foreign policy, including Soviet-U.S. and Soviet-Japanese relations, as well as Soviet-South Korean relations which have gathered momentum in recent months. I hope that such an explanation will in itself affect North Korea's changes and opening. In addition, I think the Soviet Union will make clear its pressure on North Korea with regard to its nuclear development.

[Kyong-hyong] Based on the trends of the international community, many observers believe that an epoch-making change in South-North relations could come during the mid-nineties. In this context, do you see any possibility of the South and North holding summit talks before President No's term of office expires?

[Hong-ku] Given the changes that have taken place in international relations and in South-North relations over the past two and a half years, it is quite likely that the South and North will have summit talks during President No's remaining stay in office. Because of the special nature of the North Korean system, we have been putting special emphasis on South-North summit talks as part of effort to settle the South-North issues. Since the North has a system in which Kim Il-song is regarded as an absolute leader, we believe that we can hope for no change in North Korea unless its supreme ruler is persuaded.

[Kyong-hyong] Behind-the-scenes contacts between core members of the two sides are considered to be as important as formal talks in South-North relations. The so-called "back channel," which once was in operation, seems to have stopped functioning. Is any meaningful behind-the-scenes dialogue in progress between the South and North?

[Hong-ku] I can answer this question only in principle. The government is promoting dialogue with the North in all possible ways, including official dialogue, such as that conducted through the Red Cross. The government also is conducting informal dialogue and indirect dialogue through third parties. None of these forms is considered to be insignificant. One of these three forms of dialogue can be promoted heavily, depending on how North Korea responds.

[Kyong-hyong] The 20 July proposal for inter-Korean exchange did not come through. What's your assessment of what happened as a whole? Will the government again try the exchange during the Chusok [Korean thanksgiving day] in early October?

[Hong-ku] We do not think of it as a total failure. Through the proposal for inter-Korean exchange, we have shown before the world how persistent an effort our country makes to rebuild a national community around us. [passage omitted]

Our promotion of the inter-Korean exchange during the Chusok is not a retrial, but a continuation of our earlier undertaking. We made it clear at the time when we put forward the proposal that we will promote the inter-Korean exchange on national holidays. [passage omitted]

[Kyong-hyong] Do you think the Asian Games in Beijing will serve as an important opportunity to improve relations with China just as the Seoul Olympics in 1988 paved the way for improving relations with the Soviet Union?

[Hong-ku] During the Seoul Olympics, the Soviet Union discovered our national strength and economic power and realized that Korea can play a role in carrying out Soviet perestroyka. Not stopping at this, the Soviet Union seems even to have reached a conclusion that it does not necessarily have to remain fettered to North Korea by the relationship of alliance. I think that during the Asian Games in Beijing China will make an assessment of our country similar to that of the Soviet Union. However, China is relatively conservative when it comes to ideology and its position in relation to the Korean Peninsula is unique in that it was directly involved in the Korean war. What is more, in terms of history, China has always been one step behind the Soviet Union and, therefore, I believe China will never enter a competition with the Soviet Union where the speed in improving its relations with Korea is concerned.

[Kyong-hyong] On 25 August, President No began the second half of his term of office. What do you think is the important task he will have to fulfill during the remainder of his term?

[Hong-ku] In a nutshell, what President No will have to do and is doing now is to become "a president who has realized a national community," namely a democratic community, a national community, and an Asian-Pacific community.

First of all, he should make sustained effort to create a democratic community. First, democratization should be achieved not only in the political area, but also in the field of welfare. Of course, this must be accompanied by continued economic growth. Second, he should reach an agreement with the North side on bringing an end to the country's division into South and North and on realizing a national community. Third, he should build an Asian-Pacific community by improving relations with the Soviet Union and China as part of the preparation for a global phenomenon of forming blocs. In a narrow sense of the word, this means that he should review relationships with our next door neighbors. All three can be said to be tasks he should fulfill during the second half of his term of office. [passage omitted]

[Kyong-hyong] What lesson do you think the Iraqi invasion and annexation of Kuwait has taught us who are in a standoff between the South and North?

[Hong-ku] Fueled by the changes in East Europe, the movement for German unification, and the cooperative mood between the United States and the Soviet Union, optimism over the future of international relations has been dominant. However, the crisis in the Middle East now has made it clear that regional disputes can always flare up and that nations in possession of considerably powerful military might can always undertake military action. The Korean peninsula, on which considerable numbers of forces stand in confrontation and which has not been able to work out reduction of tension, constantly runs the risk mentioned above. In the course of promoting South-North dialogue, we should never forget about the "double nature of the situation." [passage omitted]

Liaison Officials Hold Contact

SK2808104090 Seoul Television Service in Korean 1000 GMT 28 Aug 90

[Text] North and South Korea today held a contact between responsible liaison officials of both sides in connection with the North-South High-Level Talks. The contact was held at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom to discuss the itinerary of the North Korean delegation. But the two sides failed to reach agreement.

The two sides agreed to hold another contact between the responsible liaison officials at Panmunjom on 30 August and to discuss the itinerary of the North Korean delegation.

At today's contact, Kim Yong-hwan, our side's responsible liaison official, put forward a draft itinerary for the North Korean delegation including a program of events for the high-level talks and procedures for the talks. Choe Pong-chun, the North Korean side's responsible official, said that he will review and confirm our side's plan and agreed to hold another contact at 1500 on 30 August.

Agreement on Schedule Details

SK3008104390 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1000 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Telephone report by reporter Hwang Myong-su from the National Unification Board—live]

[Text] The contact of responsible liaison officials for the North-South High-Level Talks was held for two hours and a half starting at 1500 this afternoon. The North and South exchanged lists of names of the delegation and the memorandum on guaranteeing personal safety. They also completely agreed on the itinerary for the North side's delegation.

The North Korean side handed over to our side a list of names of a total of 90 people—seven delegates for the talks, 33 accompanying personnel, and 50 reporters. Our side handed over to the North Korean side a memorandum guaranteeing their personal safety.

In today's contact, the two sides discussed details of the itinerary, which our side presented on 28 August, and finally decided on the hotel, transportation, the number of conferences, and the operation of the conferences, luncheons and banquets, and all the other matters.

The North side's delegation will come to our side via Panmunjom at 1000 on 4 September, and will stay at the Inter-Continental Hotel in Seoul. Conferences will also be held at this hotel. The sides agreed to hold two plenary conferences. The two sides agreed to decide whether head-to-head talks between the prime ministers of the

North and South will be held or not depending on how the plenary conference is held. After staying in Seoul for three nights and four days, the North side's delegation will return to the North Korean side at 1100 on 7 September.

Further on Middle East Developments, Reaction

Iraqi Permission Needed To Leave

SK3008033290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0300 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 30 (YONHAP)—More than 430 South Koreans, including "10-odd" embassy staff, are still in Iraq, Foreign Ministry spokesman Chong Ui-yong said Thursday.

Chong said all Koreans in Iraq except the embassy staff were construction workers and their departure was delayed as they had to get permission from Iraqi authorities to leave. There were 732 Koreans in Iraq when the country invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2. He said 635 Koreans have been evacuated from Kuwait, leaving only 13 embassy staff and volunteers.

Possible Reaction in Prices

SK3008083790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0716 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 30 (YONHAP)—A 55-percent hike in the price of South Korean naphtha on Saturday is likely to jolt prices of items containing naphtha, such as pipes, films, cloth and shoes.

With 40 percent of naphtha imported, industry will end up with a 70-percent increase in its naphtha bill because global naphtha prices are up 85 percent since Iraq occupied Kuwait, the Trade and Industry Ministry said Thursday. In addition, the ministry expects ethylene prices to rise 39.9 percent, propylene 42.7 percent, butadiene 42 percent, benzene 30 percent, toluene 50 percent and xylene 30 percent.

It forecast the effect of a 70-percent naphtha price hike as sending the price of polyvinyl chloride up 9.1 percent: pipes, 7 percent: high-density polyethylene, 22.4 percent: low-density polyethylene, 21 percent: and ethylene glycol, 29.4 percent. The impact will spread throughout society, inflating the prices of daily necessities, clothing, electronic and electric appliances, footwear and sundries, the ministry said. Wholesale prices are expected to rise 1.078 percent and consumer prices between 0.049 percent and 0.112 percent.

UN Adviser Quoted on Peninsula Policy Changes

SK3008082490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0742 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 30 (YONHAP)—The United States will pull its troops out of South Korea to ease the federal deficit, not because the strategic value of Korea has diminished, the special adviser to the commander-in-chief of the U.N. Forces in Korea said on Thursday.

Speaking on the Korea-U.S. alliance during a one-day seminar at the National Defense College's Research Institute on National Security, Stephen Bradner said the U.S. position was that the alliance would remain intact despite the withdrawal as long as North Korea refused to change.

Bradner said he thought the United States should feel deeply responsible for its failure to recognize Korea's strategic importance until the outbreak of the Korean war.

"If indeed it was U.S. policy to defend South Korea against external attack, it was a colossal piece of irresponsibility not to make this clear in advance. It appears more likely, however, that it was not U.S. policy to defend Korea and that it became U.S. policy to do so only when the North Koreans actually did attack.

"Although the United States provided South Korea with economic aid and limited military assistance in the form of equipment and training, by a series of signals from 1947 to almost the moment of North Korean attack, the United States gave the impression that it would not use military means to preserve the existence of the Republic of Korea," he said.

Interview With North Korea's Chon Kum-chol

SK2908034790 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 25 Aug 90 p 5

[Exclusive interview with Chon Kum-chol, vice chairman of North Korea's Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF), by correspondent Yi Chan-sam, on 23 August at the Koryo Hotel in Pyongyang]

[Text] Chon Kum-chol. Since his debut as North's authority concerned on North-South dialogue from the early seventies, he has currently become the highest working-level authority concerned with South Korea, playing an important role in the field of strategy and dialogue toward the South. He is vice chairman of the CPRF, director of the Reunification Affairs Institute, vice president of the Academy of Social Studies, and delegate to the Supreme People's Assembly. Just by looking at his current positions, we can guess his status in the North. He is regarded as a figure who possesses extraordinary memory, and is noted for his broad knowledge and eloquent speeches. His nickname is "human computer." As the North side's vice chairman of the pan-national rally, he was the one who actually took the initiative in that rally. I met with him on 23 August at 1600 in the VIP room at Pyongyang's Koryo Hotel. The first official interview between North Korea's high-ranking official and a South Korean reporter was held for two and a half hours. In this interview he explained in detail the prospects for North-South premiers' talks, on how North Korea will deal with the changes taking place in the Soviet Union and East Europe, on North Korea's reunification policy, and of North Korea's view of development and changes taking place in the South Korean society. Before holding the interview, he assessed that having an interview with a reporter of one of South Korea's major dailies, CHUNGANG ILBO, itself was a first "move forward," since the division. The interview follows:

[Yi] First of all, please introduce yourself.

[Chon] There were many reports on me in the South Korean press. I found some reports to be untrue. First of all, in the South Korean newspapers my name was written wrong in Chinese characters—my name is Chon [0356] Kum [0093] chol [0772] not Kum [3830] chol. Also, I was born in a place close to Chongjin, not Musan. After specializing in politics and economics at Kim Il-song University, I obtained my doctoral degree. I once taught in college. After that I have worked as a functionary in charge of peaceful reunification affairs. I am 55 years old. My wife, Yim Chong-suk, is 48 years old and is a pediatrician. I have two sons and a daughter.

[Yi] It is my understanding that your country has maintained contacts with the United States. What is the prospect for improving North Korea-U.S. relations?

[Chon] True. Our position is that we do not want to maintain our relations with the United States forever as relations between sworn enemies. The problem is that the United States does not respond to our call for talks to discuss issues of replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and sign an accord on it.

The United States seems to cite the threat of southward invasion as a reason for refusing our proposal. We have no intention of an invasion, however, nor are we capable of doing that. How can a weak man descend on a strong man. In terms of military strategy, one has to be three times stronger than the opponent one seeks to strike.

Our goal is peaceful reunification. We seek reunification without ever going into conflicts. It can be said that there was no progress in our relations with the United States.

[Yi] How does North Korea view the opening and reforms being carried out in the East European countries?

[Chon] We are steadily carrying out reforms and opening. But the notion of reforms and opening in our country is different from that in East Europe. "Continued advance, continued renovation, and continued revolution" are our policies.

The changes in East Europe appears to be a retreat from socialism. The goal of our policy is to further consolidate and develop socialism. It means to say that we remain thoroughly independent. We are not under the influence of changing lines and policies of major powers. One should not expect anything taking place elsewhere to also take place here. We are pursuing socialism of our own style built on the strength of continued leadership.

[Yi] What do you think of the fact the Soviet Union, an ally of your country, is going to establish diplomatic relations with South Korea?

[Chon] Under no circumstances should it be allowed to happen. For the North-South talks, they should not play such a game. South Korea, while being insincere at dialogue, is scheming to siege us with an outflanking action named "northern policy." This is a challenge to us.

The establishment of diplomatic relations between the South and the Soviet Union is nothing but an expression of an intent to give up reunification. At any rate, we will see what happens.

[Yi] Is the North's policy toward the South perceived as diplomatic activity? And does "South Korea" exist only as a policy target as far as the North is concerned?

[Chon] It is certainly not diplomatic relationship. The South is a target from which we want to find national homogeneity.

[Yi] Despite the South being the target from which to find national homogeneity, there exists deep-rooted mutual distrust. Confidence building is now more urgent than ever. Do you have any solution to dissipating mutual distrust? If you do, what is it?

[Chon] I admit to the existence of mistrust between the North and South. We must figure out a way of locating and removing the causes of mistrust. The South side insists on nonpolitical exchanges, namely in the cultural and economic areas, before setting out to settle the military issues. Understandably, it is one way to recover confidence, but not the fundamental one.

The root cause of mistrust stems from the mutual fear of invasion from the other side which leads to the arms race. How can you hope for confidence building amid such an environment?

The problem is arms reduction. Disarmament should be promoted on a par with exchange and cooperation. Also, the National Security Law should be abolished. It is preposterous to call for reconciliation while maintaining a law that assumes the entire populace as an enemy.

[Yi] Is it not, however, an outcome of the North's southward invasion in the past? Is it not what makes disarmament difficult?

[Chon] Of course, to a degree, it is understandable. I mean as a rhetoric before beginning dialogue. Now, however, dialogue has already started and the two sides mean business in the reunification of the country. Under such circumstances, there must be a shift in policy.

[Yi] Do you mean to say that the past must be put to rest?

[Chon] I do. While insisting on reunifying the country through dialogue, the South imprisons those who visited our side on charges of violating the existing laws. To call

for dialogue for reunification with a law against communists kept in place is a contradiction in terms and there is nothing to gain.

[Yi] Is North really fearful of a northward invasion?

[Chon] We are. Look at the "Team Spirit" exercise. It is the largest in size and is conducted simulating us as the enemy. Although the exercise is claimed to be conducted in areas far from the West Sea, its target is Pyongyang situated right there to be faced if the direction is shifted. Our people almost feel that there could be war tomorrow.

[Yi] What do you think of the merger of the three parties and Mr. Kim Yong-sam?

[Chon] I personally think that it was a mistake. He said that he would promote democracy after joining the ruling party. This was a naive idea.

[Yi] Can North-South summit talks, proposed by President No Tae-u, be held?

[Chon] It is meaningless to hold summit talks under circumstances in which acute confrontation is prevailing. Toward this end, progress must be made in political and military high-level talks, that is, premiers' talks, which will soon be held.

[Yi] Can issues be resolved more easily in the summit talks?

[Chon] Preconditions for summit talks must be met.

[Yi] How do you assess South Korea's economic development and military strength?

[Chon] I think you are continuously asking difficult questions. I heard that South Korea has achieved economic growth. (However), I think that there is no significant difference in terms of qualitative indices that determine the standard of living. Only comprador capitalists have benefited from economic growth.

Our military strength is inferior to that of South Korea. Who can calculate military strength? Computers cannot calculate military strength.

[Yi] There were reports on the North's nuclear development...

[Chon] They are absolutely groundless. Our basic stand is against nuclearization. If we possess nuclear weapons, there will be a sea of fire. Also, we are not capable of possessing nuclear weapons.

[Yi] How successful do you think the high-level talks, that is, premiers' talks, scheduled for 4 September, will be?

[Chon] The Western and Japanese media seem to have a pessimistic view. I am pessimistic about the talks if the South side assumes its previous attitude and stand toward dialogue. I mean, if it adheres to its two-pronged policy.

[Yi] Do you have any special issue to present at the premiers' talks?

[Chon] We have already declared it. It is to bring an end to political and military confrontation. This is our basic policy.

The South side added the issue of exchange and cooperation during the preliminary contacts. But what is basic are military and political issues. That is, to make efforts to practically guarantee peace.

[Yi] Rumor has it that North Korea will not participate in the Beijing Asian Games.

[Chon] I do not know who started this rumor. This rumor is groundless.

[Yi] Finally, what do you think of the ROK media?

[Chon] I am meeting you, Mr. Yi Chan-sam, now. In connection with this, I have studied CHUNGANG ILBO.

I would like to say this. I hope all the CHUNGANG ILBO readers will join in the struggle to bring an end to national division.

I think it encouraging that the South Korean reporters are making efforts for the freedom of the press. I read some of the articles on the pan-national rally that you filed from Pyongyang.

A leading reporter of a South Korean daily newspaper was officially allowed to gather news for the first time. This means a radical change in the North-South issues, does it not?

[Editor's note] Chon showed a confident look throughout the interview, which lasted approximately two hours and ten minutes.

He unhesitatingly and eloquently answered all the questions, and showed a confident look particularly when he was answering questions concerning North-South issues.

*Three Likely Future DPRK Leaders Identified

902C0231A Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean No. 1103, 3 Jun 90 pp 66-70

[Article by reporter O Tae-chin: "Three Men Emerging as Next-Generation Leaders"]

[Text]Kim Chong-il Leadership Structure, Void of Charisma, Likely To Collapse Within Three to Five Years of Kim Il-song's Death

In the "Dictionary of Political Terms" published in 1970 by the Social Science Research Institute in Pyongyang, the word "succession" is defined as follows: "What is called succession is a reactionary custom by which an heir can lawfully inherit a certain position or wealth. Originally, it was a product of slave society, but later it

was introduced by feudal lords as a means of perpetuating their autocratic rule.... This custom is carried on in capitalist society also. Landlords or capitalists come to depend on this custom in order to hold sway over the workers."

However, beginning with the 1972 edition of the Dictionary of Political Terms published by the same institute, the entry "succession" has been omitted altogether. The reason is that on the occasion of Kim Il-song's 60th birthday in 1972, work openly got under way to build a system by which Kim Chong-il will inherit power from Kim Il-song, his father. With the absolute backing of his father, Kim Chong-il formally established his position as the number-two man at the 1980 Sixth WPK [Workers Party of Korea] Congress by squeezing his uncle Kim Yong-chu and his step-mother Kim Song-ae out of power. Since then, Kim Chong-il has practically been in control of all important matters.

In our age, while almost all communist countries are falling like dominoes, many people are focusing their attention on predicting the possibility and direction of change in the exclusionary and dogmatic North Korean establishment. Yet very few inside and outside North Korea doubt that Kim Chong-il will become the number-one man succeeding his father. The majority view is that before closing his eyes, Kim Il-song will bequeath all his positions and powers to his son; and as long as he is alive, there will be no apocalyptic tremor in the North Korean establishment.

However, the question is: After Kim Il-song dies, will it be possible for Kim Chong-il to maintain his position as the number-one man as securely as his father did? The prospect for this possibility is very slim.

Many experts (including even Marxists) think that Kim Chong-il's leadership will be far short of Kim Il-song's charisma. Before arguing about Kim Chong-il's leadership qualities, they note that fundamentally, no one can imitate the "pseudo-religious personality cult" built by Kim Il-song in North Korea.

As is the case with all autocratic systems, when Kim Il-song dies, political and social forces hitherto under his control will burst forth like the gushing water from a collapsing dike. Kim Chong-il is not powerful enough to contain this flood. In the opinion of South Korean experts on North Korea, the Kim Chong-il regime will be able to hold out no more than three to five years following its inception, and at the termination of this period, full-fledged changes in North Korea will begin to take place.

Concerning this outlook for the North Korean regime, Soviet and Chinese experts and administrative officials dealing with North Korea affairs recently drew attention by identifying three high-ranking technocrats in their early 60's as the possible next-generation leaders in the post-Kim Chong-il era. According to Professor Choe Pyong-kil at Yonsei University—who is known for his frequent visits to the Soviet Union and China, thereby keeping himself well posted on the trends in Soviet and Chinese relations with North Korea, the trio are Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the State Administration Council; Kang Song-san, responsible secretary of the WPK Hamgyong Provincial Committee; and Kim Hwan, vice minister in charge of light industry.

The Soviet and Chinese party and government officials whom Professor Choe has met include: Gao E, former Chinese ambassador to North Korea; Kapitsa, former Soviet deputy foreign minister for Asian affairs; Fadeyev, deputy director of the bureau for socialist countries and first department chief [cheil puchang] of the Foreign Ministry; Yelemenko, Soviet Foreign Ministry bureau chief and chief of the Korean-Mongolian Section; Denisov, assistant chief of the same section; Tikhachenko, officer in charge of Korean affairs at the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee; Ilugeyev, assistant to Tikhachenko; Chernayev, chief presidential secretary; Yakovlev, Political Committee member in charge of international affairs. According to Professor Choe, these officials share a common view with regard to the future of the North Korean regime.

Yon, Kang, Kim in Same Age Group, Kim Il-song University Alumni

Ironically, the trio including Premier Yon Hyong-muk enjoys the high trust of Kim Il-song and his son and has greatly contributed to building the hereditary succession of power for Kim Chong-il. Professor Choe gave the following backdrop against which the trio has been mentioned as the most likely leaders in the post Kim Chong-il era:

"In current North Korean society, the generation in their 70's who joined with Kim Il-song in partisan fighting, the generation in their 50's and 60's who grew up during the Korean war and in the postwar reconstruction era, and the new generation in their 30's and 40's coexist in the state of conflict, with each generation maintaining its own perceptions and viewpoints. In terms of political leadership power, the generation in their 50's and 60's have been absorbed either by the generation of the Kim Il-song era in their 70's or the generation of the Kim Chong-il era in their 40's because of the necessity for survival. However, the age group in their 50's and 60's is the soil on which new leaders for the post-Kim il-song political structure grow. It is problematical therefore whether this generation, that is, the generation of the post-revolution reconstruction era, will play an auxiliary role for the Kim Chong-il generation in their 40's as its adjunct. Kim Chong-il has a solid power base in the party and in the political field, but relatively weak in the administrative and economic fields. On the contrary, the trio, being well versed in the internal and external situations and knowledgeable and able persons, have their own ideas about economic issues, the foremost in North Korea, independent from Kim Chong-il's ideas. The Soviet Union and China are eyeing this trio as the likely next-generation leaders. This may be a wishful expectation based on the reform lines of the two countries, or it may be a reasonable expectation based on the natural analytic judgment that the trio deserves being accepted as leaders by the North Korean populace.

Yong Hyong-muk, Kang Song-san, and Kim Hwan have many things in common beside being in their early 60's. They are alumni of Mangyongdae Revolutionary Institute and Kim Il-song University. Alumni of these two schools, also Kim Chong-il's alma maters, make up the core of the force around him.

The three studied engineering abroad. Kang Song-san and Kim Hwan attended colleges of engineering in Czechoslovakia and Yon Hyong-muk studied at the Ural Polytechnic College in the Soviet Union in the late 40's and the early 50's. In addition, all of them are reform-oriented, moderate in temperament, although Yon Hyong-muk is of the daring boss type.

Yon Hyong-muk, 65, the oldest among the three, is one of the rare figures systematically trained by North Korea. Yon, a typical North Korean economic technocrat, has been in overall command of economic administration since December in 1988 as premier. He is concurrently a member of the WPK Central Committee, a Political Bureau member, a Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) deputy, and a member of the Central People's Committee. He is an influential figure placed sixth in the power ranking.

Yon Hyong-muk is reputed to be well-rounded and tolerant in character and sharp in judgment. He is of the reasonable type who is composed and staid in character and seldom gets angry. It is said that he has many followers because he always deals with people with a cheerful, smiling face and a care-free, gentle attitude.

Yon, born in a Manchurian border town across the Tumen River, grew up in Pyongyang, and in the early 50's, shortly before the outbreak of the Korean war, went to the Soviet Union, where he studied metallurgical and mechanical engineering until he returned to Pyongyang in 1955, thereby preparing himself as a technocrat versed in modern science and technology. When he returned home from his study abroad, North Korea was in the post-war reconstruction period and badly in need of highly educated people. Immediately after his return home, Yon was appointed as a guidance member of the WPK Central Committee Organization and Guidance Department. Subsequently, he rose rapidly as he was named successively to such important economic and organizational party posts as responsible guidance member of the Organization and Guidance Department and deputy director and then director of the WPK Heavy Industry Department.

His ties with Kim Il-song are said to have played an important part in his road to success. While wandering on the verge of death from virulent flu in his days in Manchuria, Kim Il-song happened to be brought to Yon Hyon-muk's home, where he was given tender care until he recovered fully. After that, Kim Il-song frequented Yon's home to hide himself. In those days, Yon, a little boy, ran Kim Il-song's errands and became a favorite with him. Kim Il-song's tutelage is said to have been behind Yon's success in finishing an elite course of education in North Korea, studying abroad, and going through a successful career after his return home. Their relationship has been bolstered the fact that Yon's wife is Kim Song-suk, Kim Il-song's younger cousin.

Heavy Industry Expert Yon Hyong-muk, Administrator Kang Song-san

While on intimate terms with Kim Il-song, Yon Hyong-muk has played an assistant role for Kim Chong-il, serving as a reliable mentor particularly in the economic, scientific, and technological fields. Thanks to this relationship, in 1974 Yon became the responsible leader of the Central Directorate of the Three Revolutions Teams [TRT] Movement, which guides and oversees the vast TRT's, Kim Chong-il's veritable royal guard. In the same year Yon became a member of the Political Bureau, the highest core organization of the WPK. He was demoted to the managerial post at a small-scale hardware factory in Kimchaek City in 1977 because of a scandal involving TRT coeds, but a year later reinstated as a Political Bureau member and a member of the party Secretariat with the backing of Kim Chong-il. In 1985 Yon became the first vice premier and concurrently minister of metal and machine industry of the North Korean Administrative Council, an equivalent of the cabinet. He has been premier since 1988, the early year of the Third 7-year Economic Plan.

Kang Song-san, 64, is Kim Il-song's cousin by a maternal aunt. Contrary to Yon Hyong-muk, who was appointed to a key post at the center of the WPK upon his return from study abroad, Kang accumulated his career by first working at a local level. Kang was appointed as responsible secretary of the Chagang Provincial WPK Committee in 1969 and as responsible secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal WPK Committee before becoming a Central Committee member in 1970. Later he served as chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee (administrative organization) until becoming a member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau, the core organ of power, in 1973.

Kang Song-san, after accumulating administrative experiences in the field, was promoted to the post of vice premier at the formation of the sixth Yi Chong-ok cabinet in December 1977—Yi was the second to serve as premier.

Kang made his full-fledged debut in the power arena in 1980, when he was named as a Political Bureau member at the Sixth WPK Congress. At that time, he was placed 18th in the power ranking.

Kang had trailed Yon in the race for power until he became premier by surpassing Yon in 1984. Kang served as vice premier under the sixth Yi Chong-ok cabinet for 6 years. After becoming premier, Kang led economic reform efforts, including his push for a joint venture legislation designed to introduce foreign capital, for 3 years until he was relieved of his post, held responsible for the failure of the joint venture law. Despite this, he enjoyed such a high trust of Kim Il-song that he maintained his fourth place in the power ranking after Kim Il-song and his son and O Chin-u until 1988.

While continuing to hold his post as a Political Bureau member since 1980, Kang has been the responsible secretary of the North Hamgyong Provincial WPK Committee and concurrently the chairman of the People's Committee of the same province since 1988. From 1988 on, his ranking slipped gradually and currently he holds the 11th place.

Kang visited China for a week beginning 9 May leading a party delegation, during which he discussed outstanding problems between the two countries with Jiang Zemin and other Chinese leaders. Kang, although the responsible secretary of a local party chapter, made this visit at a time when the ties between North Korea and China are growing more and more intimate in the context of the changing domestic and international situations. This fact indicates that his weight in the hierarchy is something to be reckoned with and at the time underscores the significance of his delegation's recent PRC visit.

Kim Hwan (61), vice premier in charge of light industry, started his career as a chemical engineering scholar. Upon returning from study in Czechoslovakia in 1961, he became an associate researcher at the Chemical Industry Research Institute under the Ministry of Heavy Industry. He successively served as analytic chemistry teacher at Hamhung College of Chemical Industry and a researcher at the High-Heat Chemistry Research Center under the Hamhung branch of the Academy of Sciences before joining the government as vice minister of the Ministry of Textile Industry in 1968.

Since 1972 Kim Hwan had headed the Ministry of Chemical Industry, his field of specialty, until he became a member of the party Secretariat in 1978. His star began to rise when he was named as a 16th ranking Central Committee member at the Sixth WPK Congress in 1980.

He has been vice premier since 1983 and concurrently minister of chemical industry since 1988. While being North Korea's number-one administrator in the field of chemical industry, he successively served as vice chairman of the State Physical Education Committee and chairman of the Budget Examination Committee. Over the past 10 years or more since he visited Guinea-Bissau as chief of a party delegation in 1975, Kim Hwan has toured various countries in the world as Kim Il-song's envoy. In this way he has been active in many fields. He was placed between 10th and 20th in the power ranking until 1986, but recently, his ranking slipped below 20th, giving the impression that he has been considerably removed from the center of the power structure.

Trio May Come to Fore When Pragmatists Gain Power; Backing of Military a Decisive Factor

The political change anticipated in North Korea for the 1990's is expected to lead to the general opening and democratization of North Korea in gear with economic changes.

The Yon-Kang-Kim trio not only studied abroad but also is good at foreign languages, including Russian and French. They often accompanied Kim Il-song and his son in their overseas travel and made frequent trips abroad as head delegates. As a result, they are well-informed. It is speculated that being relatively moderate and rational in character, they are not happy about North Korea's exclusionary line of self-reliance. Thus they are the typical representatives of the moderate faction which is opposed to the hard-line faction, which includes O Chin-u, minister of people's armed forces; Kim Chung-nin, WPK secretary for South Korean affairs; and An Pyong-chu, chief of the Secretariat of the Committee for the Reunification of the Fatherland. The trio lacks an absolute decision-making authority on state affairs in the North Korean establishment, but they are the key staff members who have considerable influence in the political and economic fields. That is why they appear as the most likely figures to emerge as leaders when a revolutionary change takes place in North Korea, bringing about pragmatic reforms in its train.

The developments anticipated in North Korea in the 1990's will take place in this order: Kim Il-song's resignation, illness, or death; Kim Chong-il's succession to the party general secretaryship and the presidency; the challenge to the Kim Chong-il leadership structure; the ebbing of the chuche ideology and the staging of a movement to downgrade Kim Il-song and his son; the emergence of a collective leadership system. Judging from the current situation, these changes will most probably appear in the mid-90's, beginning in 1995.

These political changes will lead to the general opening and democratization of North Korea, accompanied by economic reforms which are expected to proceed in this order: the adoption of a new economic policy with emphasis on the development of the heavy industry and the opening of the economy to the outside world; the introduction of foreign capital and advanced technology; the promotion of tourism and the establishment of special economic zones; the adoption of the principles of market economy. In the midst of these changes, mid-level bureaucrats and technocrats will emerge as a leading group, and through open information, North Korean people's animosity or enmity toward South Korea will diminish, making it possible to initiate substantive discussions about reunification. According to the future image of North Korea in the 1990's as drawn by the Soviet Union and China, it will be at that moment that bureaucrats like Yon Hyong-muk will lead North Korea.

Support from the North Korean military will be a decisive factor as to whether or not these technocrats will be able to emerge as leaders. The North Korean armed forces are the group which has the most experience in study abroad among the North Koreans, and have considerable complaints against and distrust in Kim Chong-il and therefore are regarded as a potential reformist force. For this reason, they hold the key to the future of the North Korean regime. Professor Choe Pyong-kil predicts that the pattern of intervention in politics by the North Korean army will be similar to that of military intervention in politics in South Korea in the 1960's and 1980's.

Soviet Professor Comments on N-S Relations

SK3008071690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0633 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 30 (YONHAP)—The meeting between President No Tae-u and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in June was a major turning point in bilateral ties and cooperation, a visiting Soviet professor said on Thursday.

Dimitriy Petrov, a senior researcher at the Far East Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, told a seminar in Seoul that Moscow hopes South and North Korea solve disputes on the Korean peninsula through dialogue.

"We have done our utmost in that direction," he said in his lecture, titled "The Soviet Far East Policy Pursuing Peace and Security." Petrov said dialogue between Seoul and Pyongyang, such as talks between prime ministers, should be maintained for stability on the Korean peninsula.

It is desirable to establish a multilateral consultative body, such as a meeting of foreign ministers, to discuss stability and peace on the peninsula, divided at the end of World War II, he said. The multilateral body could discuss arms control, aviation, military issues, forming a crisis management committee, conversion of the military industry and economic cooperation for the common prosperity of the region, Petrov said.

European-Style Arms Control Viewed for Koreas

SK2808023290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0207 GMT 28 Aug 90

[All punctuation as received]

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 28 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea is reviewing the possibility of applying the European model in arms control talks with North Korea, a high-ranking government official said on Tuesday.

The government sees inter-Korean arms control as a decisive element in reducing tension on the Korean peninsula and thinks it is desirable for the two parts of Korea to adopt the European arms control model, which it considers successful, the official said. The prime ministers of the two Koreas are scheduled to meet in Seoul on Sept. 4-7 to discuss ways of reducing political and military tension on the peninsula. The arms control issue, along with admission to the United Nations, is expected to be a major item on the agenda.

"We are considering applying the European experience to inter-Korean arms negotiations while keeping in mind our particular circumstances," said the official, who declined to be named.

European disarmament talks include negotiations on mutual and balanced force reductions (MBFR) and on conventional forces in Europe (CFE) between NATO and the Warsaw Pact. As part of the review, the Foreign Ministry's Foreign Affairs and National Security Institute will hold an international seminar Oct. 10-11 on "Arms Control on the Korean Peninsula: Relevance and Applicability of the European Model." Arms control specialists will present papers at the seminar and there will be debate between the specialists and scholars on inter-Korean arms control, the official said.

Foreign participants will include former Norwegian Defense Minister Johan Holst, who will discuss the lessons and achievements of confidence and security building in Europe; Jonathan Dean, a former U.S. representative to the MBFR negotiations, whose topic is conventional arms reduction negotiations in Europe—past, present and future: and Alexei Arbatov, director of the Soviet Institute of U.S. and Canadian Affairs, who will read a paper on arms control on the Korean peninsula from the superpowers' perspective.

Adam Rotfeld, director of the Stockholm International Peace Institute, will also give a talk, titled "Applicability of the European Arms Control Model to the Korean Peninsula," and James Goodby, a former U.S. ambassador, will read a paper, titled "Confidence and Security Building on the Korean Peninsula—the Agenda for Negotiations." Holst played a major role in the MBFR negotiations and Arbatov is regarded as an influential arms control policy-maker under Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

South Should Not 'Irritate', Corner North

SK3008011690 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 30 Aug 90 p 2

[By staff reporter Sin Hak-nim]

[Excerpts] "Trabi [Trabant, East German auto] into (Mercedes) Benz" symbolizes German unification. It means that East Germans' desire for higher standard of living has accelerated the "absorption" by West Germany of East Germany, according to Rep. [Representative] Pak Kwan-yong. Pak, chairman of the Unification Affairs Committee of the National Assembly, returned home Tuesday from a 10-day visit to Germany, leading a parliamentary fact-finding mission on the German unification.

Visiting Bonn, Berlin and other major cities, Pak and five lawmakers of the Democratic Liberal Party met former East German prime minister Hans Modrow and other leaders of parliamentary and government of East and West Germany. Pak said that the German unification can not provide a model for the unification of South and North Korea, though a valuable lesson can be learned from it.

In an interview with THE KOREA TIMES, Rep. Pak epitomized the ongoing German unification as follows: "West Germany has bought East Germany." As a result, West Germany shoulders a formidable economic burden because of the abrupt absorption of East Germany. It has been paying all East German workers and has to invest tens of billions of marks to upgrade, communications and other social overhead in East Germany, [sentence as published].

Rep. Pak said that he and other group members had witnessed that West Germany shoulders formidable economic burden because of the abrupt "absorption" of East Germany. [passage omitted]

As to characteristics of the ongoing unification of East and West Germany, he said, "I felt that German unification is not a result of short- or long-term policy of either government or both. The two governments of East and West Germany were just responding to uncontrollable developments towards unification." [passage omitted]

Pak said that South Korea should and can not follow the path of German unification which ended in West Germany's victory by absorbing East Germany and shouldering a heavy economic burden in return. Pak said, "South Korea can not afford to take over North Korean economic problems after unification like West Germany."

"However, one thing is clear. West German wealth and economic prosperity led to the current development concerning the German unification. By that reason, South Korea needs to become more powerful economically," he said.

Pak added that he heard in Germany North Korea called back some 1,500 workers and students in East Germany upon the fall of the communist regime there. The number of diplomats and their staff assigned to East Berlin were also reduced, Pak said.

He observed, "North Korean leaders might be racking their brains over how to resist the pressure from the wave of openness and to conduct its own style of reforms for survival, witnessing the collapse of East European communist regimes in the twinkling of an eye." In that respect, the South should not irritate North Korea nor drive it into a corner, Pak said.

Group Asks Red Cross To Help Reunite Families

SK2908024690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0232 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Paris, Aug. 29 (YONHAP)—A group of South Koreans asked the Geneva-Based International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) on Tuesday to cooperate for the reunion of separated families in South and North Korea.

Choe Yong-sik, head of the preparatory committee to seek a reunion of separated families, and Yi Sang-ok, the Korean ambassador to Geneva, met with Claudio Caratsch, vice president of the ICRC to enlist the global body's help in reuniting the estimated 10 million Koreans who live in South and North Korea. The 13-member Korean group will also visit the U.N. high commissioner for refugees for similar purpose.

Musicians Await Invitations To Play in North

SK3008032090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0245 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 30 (YONHAP)—Fourteen South Korean musicians will be allowed to take part in a "pan-national unification concert" in Pyongyang on Oct. 18-24 if they are invited by the North Korean Government, a government official said on Wednesday.

Invitations from Yun I-sang, a naturalized West German composer and chairman of the preparatory committee, cannot be recognized by the government as he cannot guarantee the safety of the musicians, the official said.

Composer Hwang Pyong-ki, soprano Yun In-suk and the others have submitted applications to the National Unification Board for permission to receive invitations from North Korea's General Federation of Unions of Korean Literature and Arts. The 14 also include taegum [harp] player Kim Wol-ha and Kim Tuk-su, a member of the Samulnori instrumentalists group. The concert will be the first of its kind since the Korean peninsula's division in the mid-1950s.

Information Minister Chairs Meeting in U.S.

SK2408020390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0127 GMT 24 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 24 (YONHAP)—Information Minister Choe Pyong-yol headed for Washington on Friday to chair a meeting of Korean press and cultural attaches stationed in [the] Americas on Saturday, the Information Ministry said. Choe is accompanied by Pak Sin-il, director of the Korean Overseas Information Service (KOIS), and Yi Chin-pae, KOIS' chief of planning. Other meetings of the press attaches are scheduled for London on Aug. 30 and Tokyo on Sept. 3, the ministry said. He is to return home on Sept. 4.

Soviet Delegations To Visit Seoul in Sep, Oct

SK3008023490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0217 GMT 30 AUG 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 30 (OANA-YONHAP)—A high-powered Soviet delegation headed by an influential economic aide to President Mikhail Gorbachev will visit South Korea in early October to discuss bilateral economic cooperation and, possibly, the normalization of diplomatic ties, a government official said Thursday.

Stanislav Shatalin, a member of the Soviet Presidential Council and chairman of the Scientific Council of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, will lead the delegation, which also includes about 10 high-ranking officials such as Mikhail Titarenko, director of the Far East Institute, and the mayor of Moscow. They were invited by Sin Hyon-hwak, a former prime minister and chairman of Samsung Co., trading arm of the Samsung Business Group.

An official Soviet delegation is expected here in late september to discuss economic and trade cooperation and opening diplomatic relations. The delegation will be headed by Yuriy Maslyukov, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Soviet State Planning Agency (Gosplan). The official said Shatalin and the other Soviet delegates are expected to meet with President No Tae-u and may convey to him a personal letter from Gorbachev on economic cooperation and diplomatic ties.

They will have talks with government officials, including Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun and Trade and Industry Minister Pak Pil-su, and will meet with leading businessmen to discuss economic and trade matters. The Soviets are expected to have deep discussions on stepping up economic cooperation and the normalization of diplomatic ties even though they are not guests of the government but of a businessman. Sin, a close associate of No, is regarded as one of the most influential people in politics or business.

The Soviets will participate in seminars hosted by the state-funded Korea Development Institute, and the research institute of China and Soviet affairs in Seoul's Hanyang University. Korea and the Soviet Union agreed in principle to normalize diplomatic ties in a historic meeting between No and Gorbachev in San Francisco in June.

The two countries held their first ministerial-level talks on economic cooperation and opening diplomatic ties early this month in Moscow. Substantial progress is expected in discussions on signing bilateral agreements on trade, investment protection, prevention of double taxation and aviation in the second round of official talks in Seoul.

Joint-Studies Conference To Open in Moscow

SK2308015490 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 Aug 90 p 2

[Text] The 12th International Conference on Toegye Studies, co-sponsored by the Seoul-based International Toegyehak Society and the Soviet Academy of Sciences, will open in Moscow on Aug. 27-29, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said.

A 51-member Korean delegation will include Yi Hyon-chae, president of the state-run Academy of Korean Studies, and Kum Chin-ho, chairman of the Toegyehak Society and a former trade and industry minister, the spokesman said. The conference will be attended by a group of 30 Soviets, including Stanislav Shatalin, a member of the Presidential Council, and Mikhail Titarenko, director of the academy's Far East Institute, he said. He said scholars from China, Japan, Taiwan and the United States are also to participate in the discussions on modern society, Confucianism and Toegyehak.

Yi Toe-kye (1501-1570) was one of Korea's most outstanding neo-Confucian scholars.

Hyundai Company To Exploit Siberian Forests

SK2908032490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0245 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 29 (YONHAP)—The Hyundai Business Group of South Korea, which has been promoting forestry development in Svetlaya in the maritime provinces of Siberia since last year, will send logging and construction equipment to Svetlaya and build roads and lodgings for workers there in September, Hyundai officials said Wednesday.

The equipment will be sent by ship along with 20 Hyundai officials who will employ Koreans living in China and supervise the construction of roads and lodgings, an official said. The Svetlaya project has been tentatively approved by the government but there are still procedural matters requiring settlement, the official said. The equipment and officials will be able to leave soon after the procedural matters are settled with the forestry administration, he said. He said logging could begin in September and the first batch of Svetlaya lumber will reach Korea by the end of the year.

Hyundai will establish a company to promote resources development projects in the Soviet Union next month and Chong Chong-il, senior vice president of the Hyundai Construction and Engineering Co., has been chosen to head the tentatively named Hyundai Resources Development Co., he said. Departments in charge of business with the Soviet Union in affiliates such as Hyundai Corp. and Hyundai Construction and Engineering Co. will be transferred to the projected company.

* Industries Seek Joint Venture With PRC

902C0251A Seoul HANGUK KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 21 Jun 90 p 5

[Article by Yi Hak-yong]

[Text] The Samsung Corporation is receiving attention for its promotion of joint ventures in the areas of computers and communications with the Chinese International Trust and Investment Corporation (CITIC), the largest government-run corporation in the People's Republic of China (PRC).

Samsung invited high-ranking PRC officials to visit for a week, starting from May 25. The PRC officials, including Deng Zhifang, technical vice president of the CITIC Industrial Bank which is a subsidiary investment company of the CITIC, discussed joint ventures between Samsung and CITIC in detail.

Vice President Deng came to Korea with a joint venture negotiation team consisting of three high-ranking Chinese officials including himself; one from the CITIC Industrial Bank and the other from a computer company called China Great Wall Industrial Corporation. They are known to have had in-depth discussions with Samsung on the joint venture conditions and its detailed schedule.

One Samsung official said, "The Chinese delegation showed a positive intention in luring joint venture businesses to China in the high-tech area such as computers and communications" and also disclosed that "since they proposed that Samsung provide capital and technology, we plan to send working-level representatives of Samsung to China to carry out follow-up negotiations."

Samsung seems to think that now is the right time for expanding its businesses in China since China is actively promoting modernization of high-tech industries such as computer and communications in order to expedite its economic reform policy.

Samsung is actively promoting business expansion in the area of communications, followed by the consolidation of a business plan in March with Huali Electronics Corporation in Shenzhen, a special economic district in China, to manufacture color TV's by investing $1.14 million, which is equivalent to a 19 percent share of the Chinese electronics company.

Although computer, communications, and other related industries in China are in their early stage of development, companies from our competitor nations such as Japan and Taiwan have already made inroads into the Chinese market and are greatly expanding their market shares. In this respect, Samsung believes joint venture investments in China are inevitable from the standpoint of occupying a market territory in China.

CITIC has a relatively high credit rating compared to other Chinese companies since it is under the direct authority of the Chinese State Council and Samsung seems to have identified this company as its joint venture partner.

Following last year's invitation by Tang Ke, senior executive vice chairman of CITIC, to discuss the groundwork of the joint venture, Samsung invited the vice president of a subsidiary company of CITIC, Deng, and his working-level officials to discuss detailed joint venture conditions this time.

Samsung flatly denied the report of some foreign news agencies that related the fact that Vice President Deng, being the second son of the Chinese supreme power Deng Xiaoping, met with high-ranking Korean Government officials during his visit to discuss such political problems as opening diplomatic relations between the two countries.

According to Samsung, the delegates led by Deng mostly met with officials from the Samsung Corporation, which invited them, visited the Samsung electronics companies' integrated research complex in Suwon, and discussed management problems of high-tech facilities.

Deng showed great interest in the secret of rapid growth of the Korean economy. Deng asked Yi Pil-kon, president of Samsung Corporation, to disclose to him "Samsung's management secret of becoming a world class entrepreneur in such a short period of time."

Some people still do not rule out the speculation of Deng's meeting with high-ranking Korean Government officials in any way during his visit to discuss pending economic and diplomatic issues between the two countries, such as opening trade offices. Although Vice President Deng is not directly involved in politics, unlike his older brother, Deng Pufang, who was once involved in politics, the fact that he is the favorite son of old Deng Xiaoping and that he has been in charge of economic diplomacy toward the Western countries through the CITIC led to the speculation.

After graduating from Beijing University, Vice President Deng got his Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Rochester in the United States before joining the CITIC. He has been exercising his influence in negotiating economic cooperation with Western nations, while being in charge of technical matters in the CITIC's subsidiary company, CITIC Industrial Bank.

Anyway, the Samsung Corporation is promoting national interest in recent expansion efforts in the two big communist countries by reinforcing relations with a powerful man in the Chinese economic circle, followed by company chairman Shin Hyon-hwak's recent visit to the Soviet Union to discuss an agreement on the joint commercialization project of the basic science technology at the invitation of the Soviet Union's Academy of Science.

ROK, Taiwanese Finance Conference Conducted

SK3008031090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0303 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 30 (YONHAP)—The 23rd Annual Korea- Taiwanese Economic Ministerial Conference took place in Seoul on Thursday to discuss bilateral trade promotion, and economic and technological cooperation.

South Korean Finance Minister Chong Yong-ui told the opening ceremony that Seoul-Taipei economic ties are vitally important to the global economic environment, which he said is beset by rising protectionism, regionalism and pressures from industrialized nations.

The 23-member Taiwanese delegation is led by Economic Affairs Minister Vincent H.E. Siew, who arrived in Seoul on Wednesday. The Korea-Taiwanese Economic Ministerial Conference has been held yearly since 1966, alternately in Seoul and Taipei.

Experts From Vietnam, Laos, China at Conference

SK2908025690 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 29 Aug 90 p 9

[Text] Some 200 experts including 100 foreigners are participanting in a five-day conference on international rice study, which opened at Sheraton Walker Hill Hotel in eastern Seoul Monday.

The conference, co-sponsored by the Manila-based International Rice Research Institute and the Rural Development Administration, is being attended by rice experts from the United States, Germany, Japan and the Philippines as well as China, Vietnam and Laos. The latter three countries have no diplomatic ties with Korea. The experts are discussing yield ability, direct planting, rice fever, endurability, quality and marketability during the five-day conference.

Libyan Ambassador Returns Home After 'Stir'

SK3008030290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0239 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Seoul, Aug. 30 (YONHAP)—The Libyan Embassy has cancelled a reception for Libyan revolution day, and the Libyan ambassador to South Korea returned home on Wednesday, one week after raising a stir by contacting anti-government dissidents.

"We don't know the reason for his departure," an official at the Korean Foreign Ministry said, confirming that Ambassador 'Abd al-Hamid Farhat left for home on Wednesday evening on a KLM [Royal Dutch Airlines] airliner. A spokesman for the Hotel Shilla, where the Libyan Embassy had planned to hold the Sept. 3 reception, said on Thursday that the party was cancelled on Aug. 24.

On Aug. 22, Farhat met with leaders of the largest dissident organization in Korea and tried to arrange relations with an anti-imperialist group in Tripoli. The vernacular daily HANGYORE SINMUN reported on Thursday that Farhat was recalled in connection with the meeting. [passage omitted]

Libya maintains diplomatic relations with both South and North Korea.

Foreign Ministry Comments

SK3008032890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0310 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 30 (YONHAP)—Libyan Ambassador to South Korea 'Abd al-Hamid Farhat left Seoul on Wednesday without notifying the government, Foreign Ministry spokesman Chong Ui-yong said on Thursday.

"It is customary for diplomats stationed here to notify our ministry of their travel plans, but he did not give any word so far," Chong said. He said he had been notified of the embassy's cancellation of its revolution day reception. The vernacular daily HANGYORE SINMUN reported on Thursday morning that Farhat was recalled in connection with his meeting with leaders of Korea's largest dissident organization.

Groups To Attend Paris, Bangkok UN Meetings

SK2508071790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0654 GMT 25 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—A five-member South Korean delegation will attend the second U.N. conference on the least developed countries opening in Paris next month, the Foreign Ministry said Saturday.

Ambassador Pak Sang-yong will head the team to the Sept. 3-14 meeting where the substantial new program of action (SNPA) for the 1990s will be adopted to aid the least developed countries, ministry officials said.

The first conference was in 1981, when the SNPA for the 1980s was adopted.

"Our delegation will reaffirm South Korea's willingness to render political and economic support to needy countries and to participate actively in drawing up related domestic and international policies," one official said. Pak will also visit Bangkok for five days from Aug. 27 for a representatives' meeting of the Economic and Social Council of Asia Pacific (ESCAP), another U.N. subgroup. The Korean ambassador will be one of the 15 representatives of 48 member nations attending the ESCAP talks on group reorganization, officials said.

*Changes in Technology Transfer Policy Suggested

WA2708195790 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 25 Jun 90 p 3

[By Sogang University Professor Kim Kwang-tu]

[Text] The future of Korea depends on how fast scientific technology can be developed. On this point the entire nation agrees. Why is it then that we feel uncomfortable about such issues as effective technology import policies, investment, amount of investment and effective use of investments for improving technology, etc.?

Consider the most recent incidents. Before and after President No's summits with Japan and the USSR, ROK-Japan and ROK-USSR technical cooperation were the most discussed issues. Everyone talked about them as if they were discussing the most recent fashion. However, regarding technical cooperation, Japan's Foreign Ministry simply stated that technology transfer issues are matters for private industry to discuss, not governments. The USSR merely presented a list of workable joint technologies without any proposals or conditions.

Our officials, who have experienced similar responses in the past, do not even have a clear understanding of which technology will benefit our country. They only spout technical cooperation because it is a popular issue.

Unfortunately, our policy makers are in the midst of a power struggle. Not only are they slow in making decisions, they are blurring the views of the people who have genuine interest in and knowledge of the issues. Probably they are just waiting for a new fashion to emerge.

Reluctance by the United States and Japan to transfer technology to us began some years ago and became worse as time passed. Thus, the technology import issue became the biggest obstacle to our national technology development program. In order to overcome this difficult period, the time has come for us to make a sound decision; not a temporary solution by following the popular fashion trend, but a permanent measure.

The following are suggested to support the establishment of a policy oriented, structured program:

1. Conduct a regular technology census. To assess and import correct technology, we need a standard barometer that applies to all technology. This barometer must be based on correct information. In other words, our industry's overall technological ability; relationships between related technology; how to develop each industry's key technology as well as hard-to-get technology; essential factors of technology, energy concentration and each velocity of propagation; etc., must be examined. Based on these studies, we should assess and select the technology that is possible to import. Moreover, these studies should be the basis for technology shopping in the international market.

2. Establish each industry's information center. Without a central source for precise foreign technology development information that can be retrieved rapidly, we will be unable to select the most needed technology, and we will be unable to provide correct assessment of technology transfer conditions.

3. Establish a program for using retired foreign technocrats and high-technologists on a regular basis. Hiring the retired or near retirement foreign human resources can provide the protected technology. Moreover, their knowledge can accelerate the effective teaching and training of our workers.

4. Support and accelerate direct investment and joint venture programs for technology that demand strategies or major investments. Direct investment or joint venture with foreign industries are the most successful routes to new technology. If we can detect and follow-up using our technology census and foreign techonology information centers, plus our industrial target policies, we can identify excellent leads for direct investment and joint ventures.

5. Establish an arms technology development and import plan. One method is to send a team of researchers to the country that has the best technology.

6. Advertise for new technology in the international market. By advertising our needs, we could create a buyers' market—perhaps more than one country would like to sell the technology we need, which will give us an edge and better conditions for the transfer of the technology.

7. Support and expand nation to nation technology cooperative programs. By taking active roles in international research projects, we can take a part in the development of new technology. The government should establish a plan to support such projects.

8. Establish effective methods for respecting intellectual property rights. In the past, we were worried by the foreign property rights because of the potential unfavorable effect it may have on our industry. Our concerns were based on higher costs for technology transfers, however, the better the technology, the more difficult to obtain or to copy. Thus, obtaining technology by using legal channels is becoming an important factor in obtaining technology. Moreover, when technology is developed by a joint venture, the property rights will be important to the countries involved.

I very much hope that our government authorities, who are handling our national technology policies, will get away from the fashion syndrome and develop sound plans to obtain new technology.

Representative 'Justifies' Creation of DLP

SK3008004690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 30 Aug 90 p 2

[From the "Out and About" column: "Coup Scenario"]

[Text] A ruling party lawmaker has recently argued that a military coup d'etat might have occurred in September had there been no merger of the three parties which created the DLP [Democratic Liberal Party] last February.

The author of this somewhat wild scenario was Rep. [Representative] Hwang Pyong-tae. He argued: If the DLP had not been created, labor and student unrest might have erupted, bringing the military out of the barracks to crack down on the uprisings in the name of national interests.

"That justifies the DLP's birth," he was quoted as saying. Hwang, a confidant of DLP leader Kim Yong-sam, made the remarks while speaking to party members from local chapters who attended a training program held at Mt. Sorak Aug. 24-25.

Further Reaction to Uruguay Round Negotiations

Agricultural Committee Created

SK2908023490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0158 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 29 (YONHAP)—South Korean agricultural specialists, in an open forum hosted by the Korean Association of Farmers' Organizations, on Tuesday called on the government to set up a private agricultural trade committee to study the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations.

They also urged the government to restructure Korean agriculture to minimize the damage that could be caused by the Uruguay Round and to introduce the charge imposition system used by the European Community, under which the government levies charges on all agricultural imports. The specialists said the National Assembly should not ratify the Uruguay Round agreement, even if the government signs it, to protect Korean farmers.

Cho Kyu-il, assistant agricultural, fisheries and forestry minister, attended the forum as a government representative. He said the government would try to have items such as rice excluded from the list of items for market opening under the Uruguay Round agreement, and if it fails it will seek a maximum suspension period for market opening.

Kwon Chong-tae, chairman of the National Union of the Farmers' Associations, called for a nationwide drive to block the Uruguay Round negotiations and asked the government to guarantee the sale of farm products.

Farmers complain that allowing imports of rice, barley, corn, soybeans, red pepper, garlic, sesame and beef would destroy the fragile foundation of Korean farming. The Uruguay Round is scheduled to finish this year and the agricultural plan was mapped out in July.

PPD: May Harm Agriculture

SK2908025890 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 29 Aug 90 p 3

[Text] The Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] yesterday called for the resignation of "responsible" government officials who have yet to work out measures to protect farmers and fishermen from the Uruguay Round trade negotiations.

The opposition party asserted that a Uruguay Round agreement will trigger a nose-dive in prices for agricultural products.

"The reduction in farmers' incomes is estimated at the exponential level of 7,000 billion won. The local rural economy is sure to collapse," the PPD statement said. It urged the government to set up a committee to protect farming and fishing households from the crisis, composed of lawmakers of ruling and opposition parties and representatives from all walks of life, under the direct control of President No Tae-u.

Accord May Harm Education

SK2908013690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0053 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 29 (YONHAP)—If the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations reaches an accord on educational service it could unleash foreign cultural influences and seriously affect the education industry in South Korea, education experts warned Wednesday.

Noting that the education industry is still in its infancy in this country of unrivalled academic zeal, they said that opening the education market might result in the collapse of Korean education and let in foreign cultural influences.

"If the Uruguay Round is settled, private companies from such advanced countries as the United States, Britain, Australia, Japan and France may open foreign language institutes or branches of their institutions specializing in music, fine arts and skills. They may also produce teaching-learning materials for all levels of education, taking immense profits. The domestic industry will be gravely damaged," an expert said, refusing to give his name.

Kim Sin-il, a professor of pedagogy at Seoul National University, warned that opening the education sector might mean a "crisis" for Korean education.

"The domestic education sector is not strong enough to resist the foreign influence. Once it is opened, it is quite likely that our culture will be substantially influenced by foreign cultures and our education will face a crisis," Kim said.

Many institutes of higher learning in foreign countries, and those specializing in arts and sports, view Korea as a lucrative market and will try to operate branches here instead of inviting Korean students to their countries, he warned.

Koreans who operate foreign language institutes and private art, music, cooking and design schools say they will have a serious problem if foreign schools are let into Korea by the Uruguay Round.

"They have much more experiences and know-how than us," the director of a private institute said.

Foreigners cannot open such institutions under the foreigners investment prohibition law, but some operate institutions jointly with Koreans.

Kang Mu-sop, a researcher at the Korea Educational Development Institute, said the worst effect of opening the education service sector would be the foreign influence on Korean culture and thinking.

"The government should work out countermeasures," he said.

School owners gathered on June 20 and agreed to resist the establishment and operation of educational institutes, including high schools and universities, by foreigners.

Law Sought To Balance Migration to Seoul

SK2708010690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0055 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 27 (OANA-YONHAP)—The South Korean Government is drafting a law on regional development and revising related laws to combat the intensifying concentration of population in greater metropolitan Seoul, officials at the Economic Planning Board (EPB) said on Monday. Given the unwieldy title of the Law on Balanced Regional Development and Revised Laws on National Territory Utilization, Planning for Metropolitan Development and Architecture, the proposed legislation will impose financial penalties on people opening factories or big buildings in the capital area. The money will be used to develop provincial cities.

The new legislation will also help provide provincial cities with public facilities, the EPB officials said. They said balancing regional development of the nation is the top priority of the government as 41.5 percent of the population will live in Seoul and its environs by the end of the year.

Regional development will be given special consideration in the seventh Five-Year Plan for Socio-Economic Development, beginning in 1992, the officials said. The population of Seoul and its satellite cities, including the port of Inchon to the west, expanded by 559,000 people in 1989. Employment was the most common reason for moving near Seoul.

Construction Orders 'Robust' in Second Quarter

SK2908014290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0119 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 29 (YONHAP)—Construction permits were up a robust 25.5 percent in the second quarter over the same period last year, orders rose 43.2 percent and investment climbed 26 percent, the Construction Ministry reported on Wednesday.

The figures compare with an explosive first-quarter gain in construction permits of 48.4 percent, in orders of 98.5 percent and in investment of 46.1 percent.

The slowdown helped alleviate a shortage of building materials caused by the construction boom, according to the 1990 construction trend and prospect report. In the first half, construction permits rose 34 percent, orders 61.7 percent, and investment 33.9 percent. In the second half, permits will jump 31.8 percent, orders 26.2 percent and investment 16.6 percent, the report said.

The Gulf crisis might jeopardize the growth, but the impact will be slight unless oil prices rise above 30 U.S. dollars a barrel, it said. Overseas orders might be less than 1.8 billion dollars, down from 5.4 billion dollars in the first half, the report said.

Burma

NLD Division Urges Convention of Parliament

BK2908154290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1519 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Rangoon, Aug 29 (AFP)—A division of Burma's National League for Democracy (NLD), the country's largest political party, urged its leaders Wednesday to defy the ruling military junta and convene parliament by October at the latest. In a letter to the party's leaders, the NLD's Mandalay division urged them to "implement their legal right as a winning party to convene parliament in October," should the junta fail to do so in September. "We call upon the NLD leadership to be courageous and do what ought to be done within the framework of law," the letter said.

The junta, under its title of the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), has warned it will take action if any attempt is made to set up a government before a new constitution is drafted and approved, a process observers here say could take years. It has insisted that only when a new constitution is formed will power be transferred from the military to an elected government. "Sovereign power lies solely with the SLORC and any interim government likely to be formed under any temporary constitution would be considered a parallel government and effectively dealt with," a SLORC spokesman said.

At last month's NLD's conference the party, which swept the May general elections, called on SLORC to convene parliament by the end of September. But [words indistinct]

Western diplomats here have reported growing tension within the NLD over its non-confrontational policy. "There is no doubt the leadership is facing a crisis. Certain groups within the party are becoming restless over the present policy. There is a clock ticking in there," one diplomat said earlier this week.

Mandalay, the ancient political capital, some 450 miles (725 kilometers) north of Rangoon, is a potential political hot-bed where students and members of the Buddhist clergy continue to protest the lack of progress in the aftermath of the elections. Last month, two students and two monks were reportedly shot dead in Mandalay when troops fired on demonstrators. The SLORC has denied that anyone died or that troops opened fire.

As the NLD leadership comes under pressure, political parties representing Burma's ethnic minorities have urged the military authorities to begin a dialogue with the NLD "in the interest of the nation." The United Nationalities League for Democracy (UNLD), which represents 21 ethnic-based political parties, in a joint declaration with the NLD on Wednesday repeated the call to convene parliament in September. They also called for the release of NLD leaders Aung San Suu Kyi and Tin U as well as others detained and the removal of restrictions depriving the people of their basic human and democratic rights.

Thai Delegation Meets Chit Swe, Departs 27 Aug

BK2708141290 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Excerpt] The visiting Thai delegation headed by Dr. Charoen Khanthawong, deputy minister of agriculture and cooperatives, paid a courtesy call on and held friendly talks with Lieutenant General Chit Swe, minister of livestock breeding and fisheries and agriculture and forests of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], at the reception hall of the Myanmar Agriculture Enterprise on Natmauk Road, Yangon [Rangoon], at 1000 today.

Present on the occasion were U Tin Maung Myint, director general of the Planning and Statistics Department under the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries; U Kyaw Lwin, director of that department; U Min Htin, director general of the Fisheries Department; U Than Tint, director general of the Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Department; U Han Tun, managing director of the Myanmar Fisheries Enterprise; Dr. Myint Thein, director general of the Planning and Statistics Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests; U Ba Thwin, director general of the Forestry Department; U Tin Hlaing, managing director of the Myanmar Agriculture Enterprise; and U Hla Pe, managing director of the Myanmar Timber Enterprise.

This evening, the Thai delegation headed by Dr. Charoen Khanthawon left Yangon by air after a three-day visit. [passage omitted]

Japan's Watanabe, Delegation Arrive in Rangoon

BK2908143590 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] A Japanese delegation led by Mr Michio Watanabe, member of Lower House of Japanese parliament, arrived in a special plane in Yangon [Rangoon] this evening. The Japanese delegation was welcomed at the airport by U Ohn Kyaw, director general of the Political Affairs Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and responsible officials and Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar [Burma] Tomoya Kawamura and staff members.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Foreign Minister Welcomes UN Cambodia Plan

BK3008094890 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Malaysia has welcomed the peace plan proposed by the United Nations Security Council for Cambodia. The plan called for an interim U.N. administration in the elections to be organized by [the] world body. Foreign Affairs Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar said Malaysia is happy with the progress of talks among the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council with regard to [the] Cambodia problem.

Speaking to reporters in Kuala Lumpur today, he said ASEAN and Malaysia have always supported the setting up of a supreme national council of Cambodia during the interim period before elections are held. Datuk Abu Hassan said that the council should be established as soon as possible.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 0916 GMT on 30 August adds the following: "'It is also our view that the SNC should take over the seat of the CGDK in the United Nations once it is established,' he [Datuk Abu Hassan Omar] said, adding 'time is not on our side.'"]

Foreign Minister Hails De Cuellar's Initiative

BK3008065890 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Malaysia has welcomed the initiative taken by the United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to resolve the Gulf crisis. Mr. Perez de Cuellar is to meet Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz in Amman, Jordan today.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar said Malaysia had maintained the need for the UN to play the central role in finding peaceful solutions to international crises. He said in a statement that de Cuellar's initiative was timely and appropriate in taking to defuse tension in West Asia following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on the second of this month. Malaysia also called on all parties concerned to cooperate with the UN secretary general and to create conditions for the success of his mission.

Crude Oil Reportedly To Be Sold to Pakistan

BK3008103390 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Malaysia is to sell 15,000 to 20,000 barrels of crude per day to Pakistan to make up the shortage created due to the Gulf crisis. This was stated by Malaysian Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar in Kuala Lumpur. He said that terms of the oil sale will be worked out later.

South Commission's Nyerere Ends Visit 26 Aug

BK2608072290 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 26 Aug 90

[Text] South Commission Chairman Dr. Julius Nyerere left Kuala Lumpur for Belgium this morning after a three-day official visit to Malaysia. Yesterday, Dr. Nyerere called on Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed and discussed the implementation of a recommendation contained in the South Commission report on South-South cooperation. They also discussed the need to set up a small unit for follow-up actions after the [words indistinct] in October.

During his stay in Kuala Lumpur, Dr. Nyerere also visited the Institute for Medical Research, which he described as one of the 20 institutes of excellence in the South countries. Dr. Nyerere is expected to hand over a copy of the South Commission report on South-South cooperation and [words indistinct].

Australian Immigration Minister Hand Arrives

BK2908064790 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Australian Minister of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs, Gerry Hand, has arrived in Kuala Lumpur for three-day visit to Malaysia. He was accompanied by his wife, Marie Hand, and a six-member delegation. Mr. Hand will call on Foreign Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar today. They are expected to discuss developments relating to the comprehensive plan of action adopted at the international conference on Indochinese refugees in Geneva in June last year.

Mr. Hand will also visit the Sungai Besi and Pulau Bidong camps for Vietnamese asylum seekers to gain a first-hand understanding of the conditions and operating procedures there. He is also scheduled to visit Indonesia, Thailand, and Hong Kong.

Australia is a major resettlement country for Vietnamese boat people from camps in this country. It has resettled more than 46,000 boat people from Malaysia since 1975.

Six Nigerians Charged for Heroin Trafficking

BK2908085990 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0649 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Aug 29 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Six Nigerians were charged again in the Butterworth magistrate court Wednesday—the second time within a space of two weeks—for allegedly trafficking in heroin earlier this month.

All six, including a woman, said they understood the charges. Olusoga Saidi Oni, 31, Olalekan Olatunde Mosuro, 33, Oladotun Lukmanu Umaru, 28, Tunde Apatira, 28, Fatimu Lolade Lawal, 28, and Adekunle Johnson Oshodi, 25, are charged with trafficking in 210 gm of heroin on August 12. Except for Olusoga, the others face a second charge each of trafficking in heroin of between 18.18 gm and 750 gm in Butterworth, north of here.

The six were charged under section 39 (B) of the dangerous drug act which carries the mandatory death sentence upon conviction.

Police Official Discusses 'Communist Threat'

BK2608084990 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 26 Aug 90

[Text] Police will continue to be on the look-out for the communist threat, especially in underground activities, that can influence individuals, political parties, youth organizations, and workers unions.

Negeri Sembilan State Police Chief Datuk Haji Ramli Haji Karim said this at the police dinner in Seremban last night. He said this is because it was believed that the communist ideology would continue to be a threat especially by members of the Communist Party of Malaya, although they had agreed to lay down their arms. Datuk Haji Ramli said on the whole, the security of the state was under control and so far there had been no fresh development on the communist threat.

Singapore

Government Welcomes UN Accord on Cambodia

BK2908145990 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Singapore has welcomed the agreement by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council in the framework for the political settlement to the Cambodian problem. A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry described the framework's document as "a unique and considerable" achievement. He said the basic framework could be improved and enhanced the UN role [words indistinct]. In fact a negotiated government must never be set up. For the first time, all the major powers are now agreed on what constitutes a political settlement in Cambodia and should form the sole basis for any future negotiations.

Singapore hopes that all parties will respect the efforts of the permanent five and [words indistinct] the momentum toward a negotiated settlement. It urges the permanent five and in particular the patron of the major Cambodian factions and Vietnam to use their influence to make their allies accept the framework. It also hopes for all Cambodian parties to seize the opportunity to bring about peace in their country. As a first step, they should agree on the formation of the supreme national council, as agreed to by the permanent five.

Vice Premier Meets, Supports Kuwaiti Minister

BK2908121590 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] The Kuwaiti oil minister has called on the first deputy prime minister and defense minister, Mr. Goh Chok Tong, today. Mr. Rashid Salim al-Amiri is on a three-day visit as part of his Asian tour to boost confidence [words indistinct] Kuwaiti government. The Saudi Embassy in Singapore said his visit is to update government leaders on the political and economic situation in Kuwait since the takeover by Iraq. The deputy prime minister said the republic supports his government.

From Singapore, Mr. al-Amiri will go to Thailand and Korea.

Kuwaiti Bank Considers Headquarters in Singapore

BK2808061690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0554 GMT 28 Aug 90

[Text] Singapore, Aug 28 (AFP)—The Kuwait-based Gulf Bank may set up temporary headquarters in Singapore if the Iraqi occupation of the sheikhdom continues, a bank director said here Tuesday. Najib H. M. al-Saleh, a Gulf Bank director who arrived here Sunday for talks with officials of the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), the republic's equivalent of a central bank, said the institution will continue operations despite closure of all 30 of its branches in Kuwait after the Iraqi invasion on August 2. He said that Singapore, where the bank's sole overseas branch is situated, was the "only logical alternative in the present circumstances to get started up immediately."

But bank officials are waiting to see how the crisis develops before taking any firm decision on a future operational headquarters, Mr. al-Saleh said.

The Singapore branch which deals mainly in treasury activities—to a lesser extent it also underwrites and manages international syndicated loans—was established in 1983. The Gulf Bank's only other foreign bureau is its European representative office in London.

Mr. al-Saleh said that four of the bank's 12 directors were currently trapped in Kuwait but the others were outside the sheikhdom. The bank reportedly has had difficulty obtaining credit lines from other financial institutions following a freeze on Kuwaiti Government assets in countries around the world.

Indonesian Army Chief Calls on Officials

BK2508122690 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 25 Aug 90

[Text] The chief of staff of the Indonesian Army, General Edi Sudarjat, called the first deputy prime minister, Mr. Goh Chok Tong today. He also held talks with the second minister for defense, Brigadier General Lee Hsien Loong; the chief of defense force, Lieutenant General Winston Choo.

Gen. Sudarjat is here on a four-day official visit at the invitation of the Singapore chief of Army, Brigadier General Boey Tak Hap. A spokesman for Mindef [Ministry of Defense] said the visit was to [words indistinct] between the Singapore and Indonesian armed forces.

Malaysian Air Force Chief Arrives for Visit

BK2908130790 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Another visit to Singapore is [by] the Royal Malaysian Air Force chief [RMAF], Lieutenant-General [Lt.-Gen.] Datuk Sri Haji Mohamed Yunus Bin Mohamed Tasi. He called on the trade and industry minister and second minister for defense (strategy), Brigadier-General Lee Hsien Loong at the Defense Ministry today.

Lt.-Gen. Datuk Sri Haji Mohamed Yunus is in Singapore at the invitation of SAF [Singapore Armed Forces] chief of Air Force, Brigadier-General Michael Teo. The visit is his first since being appointed the RMAF chief last March.

Cambodia

Phnom Penh Wants UN Guarantees on Peace Plan

BK3008074690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0728 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Phnom Penh, Aug 30 (AFP)—The Phnom Penh government welcomed Thursday a U.N. Security Council peace plan for Cambodia, but demanded certain guarantees, particularly U.N. impartiality and the disarmament of the Khmer Rouge.

"We do not reject these proposals because we are not against a major role for the United Nations," said Hor Nam Hong, minister attached to Phnom Penh's Council of Ministers. "But it (the United Nations) must show its impartiality while beforehand modifying the representation of Cambodia in its organisations and guaranteeing an effective disarmament of the Khmer Rouge," he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The communist Khmer Rouge is the military backbone of the U.N.-recognized Cambodian resistance fighting to topple the Hanoi-backed Phnom Penh government. Two weaker non-communist resistance factions led by former monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk and a former nationalist premier, Son Sann, join the uneasy resistance coalition.

Mr. Hor Nam Hong's comments were the first public reaction by the Phnom Penh government to the U.N. Security Council's proposals. The five permanent members of the Council proposed Tuesday [28 August] in New York that a major U.N. military and civilian contingent administer Cambodia until free elections can be held in the country, which is entering its 12th year of civil war.

"This (U.N.) text, of which we only know the general outline, can serve as a base for an accord, but it will be necessary to discuss it in detail, above all the military aspects because our problem is the Khmer Rouge, who will take advantage of the slightest weakness," Mr. Hor Nam Hong said.

The Khmer Rouge, which maintains a radical Marxist ideology, is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of civilians during its reign over Cambodia from 1975 to 1979, when the regime was overthrown by Vietnam.

The five U.N. powers are Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States.

Party, Government Urge Crackdown on Corruption

BK2808162390 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 28 Aug 90

["Announcement of the Party and Government of the State of Cambodia on the Campaign To Fight Corrupt Practices and Promote the Spirit of Thrift"]

[Text] For 11 years, under the leadership of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party and the Government of the State of Cambodia, our cadres, combatants, and people throughout the country have exerted all-out efforts and made the most valuable sacrifices with a patriotic spirit to surmount countless obstacles left over by the genocidal Pol Pot regime and to overcome all manner of difficulties caused by the criminal Pol Pot gang and other reactionary Cambodian groups. This is to promote the national society's prosperity in all fields.

Through the zealous patriotic movement, a number of excellent cadres, with virtue and morality, who are loyal to the motherland and people, have been found. But along with this, the party and state have also noted that some individuals—because of the lack of understanding that the country, with unavoidable hardship, must simultaneously go through a stage of war and peace and prevail over the difficulty in administering the country while it is under reconstruction—have taken advantage of the liberal economic policy advocated by the party and state to carry out all kinds of offenses, such as corruption, bribery, oppression against the people in order to extract their money, misappropriation of the property belonging to the people and the state, smuggling, tax evasion, and so on for their own benefit or the benefit of their clans. They have done this without realizing that those actions have an adverse impact causing disappointment among the people and the loss of their confidence in our superb regime. This is tantamount to paving the way for the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Some other individuals have used their authority and influence to shield criminal offenders or employed the names of the party and state leaders as their armor in order to conduct various unlawful activities.

Moreover, the party and state have also noted that—at present, even with the economic and financial troubles encountered by our country—we have failed to practice thrift. In particular, we have not made any savings in our everyday living but have wasted commodities, natural resources, oil, foodstuffs, water, electricity, time, money, and so on. The party and government have noted that if we do not take necessary measures on time, then the survival of our country, the life of our people, and our revolution itself will be endangered. Therefore, the party and state wish to call on cadres, party members, combatants, masses, and people at all sectors and levels to understand the country's situation. They should uphold their thrift-practicing spirit in all fields and join in eliminating the bad habits, including waste, that are a disease in our society.

Cadres in all sectors and at all levels should be examples in practicing thrift. At this stage it is imperative that the party and government vigorously and urgently crack down on corrupt practices in order to redress the country's situation, to prevent those inactive practices from spreading into society, and to raise the image and influence of our party and state.

In order to effectively combat the corruption and injustice in our society and heighten the thrift-practicing spirit, the party and government suggest that authorities in all sectors and at all levels take, with their own initiative, the most appropriate measures. The party and government will, on a timely basis, provide advice to and confer commendation on the sectors and levels that are outstanding but enforce harsh punishments against the sectors and levels that fail to get rid of those social diseases. The party and government ardently hope that the cadres, party members, and people in all sectors and at all levels throughout the country will appreciate the announcement and assist the party and government in successfully cracking down on the offenses and inactive practices.

Phnom Penh, 28 August 1990

Phnom Penh on 26-28 Aug Siem Reap Fighting

BK3008114490 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 30 Aug 90

["Report from the frontline battlefield"]

[Text] In two [as heard] days, from 26 to 28 August, all types of Armed Forces in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province launched mopping-up operations against the enemies, killing 60 enemy soldiers and wounding 58 others; four were taken prisoner, and six weapons were seized. Eight enemy weapons and an ICOM field radio were destroyed.

Of these enemy casualties, the Armed Forces of Chikreng District killed 44, wounded 45, took three prisoners, and destroyed eight enemy weapons and an ICOM field radio. Varin District forces killed 11 enemy soldiers and wounded five others; Angkor Chum District forces killed two and took one prisoner and seized four AK's and two B-40's; and Kralanh District forces killed three and wounded eight enemy soldiers.

These achievements reflect the position of strength and mastery on the battlefield of our Armed Forces and people in the entire Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province.

Resistance Factions Welcome UN Peace Plan

BK3008080490 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] The three parties of the Cambodian resistance movement welcomed the peace plan for Cambodia worked out by the UN Security Council, which appeals to all Cambodian parties to accept this peace plan as the framework for a comprehensive solution leading to peace and democracy in Cambodia.

The four [as heard] Cambodian parties of the Cambodian resistance movement and the Heng Samrin regime are to meet in Jakarta in September to decide whether to accept the peace plan adopted by the five major powers—the United States, the Soviet Union, China, France, and Britain. These five powers, permanent members of the UN Security Council, met on Monday [27 August] in New York, the United States, and closed the meeting on Tuesday.

After this meeting, the five major powers held talks with UN Secretary General Javier Perez De Cuellar on the peace plan they adopted. The UN secretary general also joined the five major powers in appealing to all Cambodian parties to accept the peace plan adopted by the five major powers. The peace plan adopted by the five major powers for a peaceful solution in Cambodia contains five points.

The first point deals with the coordination on administering Cambodia during the interim period until free elections, which include the establishment of a UN administration in Cambodia. The second point deals with the coordination in the military field, including a cease-fire, the gathering of troops of all Cambodian parties at specific places under UN control and supervision, and the disarming of these troops. These two points had already been agreed upon at an earlier meeting. The three other points, which were finalized at the meeting in New York, include the establishment and supervision of elections held under UN auspices and control. The fourth point is on human rights, and the fifth point deals with international measures to ensure that the agreement is implemented. The joint statement of the five major powers issued after the meeting says that the agreement on the adopted peace plan represents the process to find a solution for Cambodia based on national reconciliation and a strong and sufficient UN role to ensure a just and durable political solution to the Cambodian problem.

At the same time, Ieng Muli, general secretary of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF], said the KPNLF welcomes the decision by the five major powers, permanent members of the UN Security Council, because the KPNLF thinks that this decision is the best means toward an agreement on setting up the supreme national council.

An official of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia

[FUNCINPEC] welcomed this decision, saying FUNCINPEC is very satisfied with this decision because this should be the basis for solving the Cambodian problem.

VOK Commentary Praises Plan

BK3008092790 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 Aug 90

["Political commentary": "On the Peace Plan of the Five Major Powers"]

[Text] On Tuesday, in New York City, the United States, the five major powers, permanent members of the UN Security Council, adopted a peace plan for Cambodia. This peace plan will be used as the framework for international efforts toward peace in Cambodia. This peace plan calls on the United Nations to set up an administration in Cambodia to be in charge of important ministries until Cambodia has a national government chosen through free elections.

Under this plan, the United Nations will verify and control Vietnamese troops in Cambodia, oversee and disarm troops of all Cambodian parties, and could also dispatch a UN peacekeeping force to ensure security for the Cambodian people during the interim period until elections are held. This UN force can stay in Cambodia between three and five years to ensure security for the Cambodian people. This UN plan is estimated to cost up to $5 billion. The five major powers, namely the United States, the Soviet Union, China, France, and Britain, have appealed to all Cambodian parties to accept the peace plan adopted by the five major powers to get peace for Cambodia. The ball is now on the Cambodian groups' side. Can Cambodians agree and accept the plan worked out by the five major powers to end the war in Cambodia?

A correct formula to solve the Cambodian problem cannot discard any party from a solution. Therefore, the key to solving the Cambodian problem is that the four Cambodian parties should accept one another. However, since the basic framework of a solution to the Cambodian problem should be an international one, the four Cambodian parties should accept a guaranteed international framework to ensure a solution to end the Cambodian problem.

The peace plan adopted by the five major powers is a fine one, and it will be most fortunate if this plan is implemented in Cambodia. This plan will certainly be welcomed by the Cambodian resistance movement and the Cambodian people, for it contains such main points as the dispatch of a UN peacekeeping force and the UN interim administration in Cambodia. Therefore, there certainly will not be any objection from the Cambodian resistance side. If there is any opposition and objection to the five major powers' plan, this will come only from Vietnam and the Vietnam-backed Heng Samrin-Hun Sen group.

We are waiting to see the reaction of Vietnam and the Hun Sen group. However, if the Hun Sen group objects to this, it means that this group does love war, a war to serve Vietnam's policy and destroy the Cambodian nation's future. The Hun Sen group does not have any reason to object if it really wants peace. The three resistance parties accept the Hun Sen group as a party, although this group is propped up by Vietnam. However, what we do not accept is the communist regime Vietnam has propped up. We have enough reason to reject this communist regime. First, this regime is the result of Vietnam's act of aggression; second, the presence of the communist regime in the country is an obstacle to elections in Cambodia. Elections are an important opportunity for the Cambodian people to achieve genuine independence and sovereignty. Therefore, the Hun Sen group has no reason to keep this communist regime in Cambodia.

As for the pretext used not to hand over power to the United Nations to temporarily administer Cambodia for fear that this organization would violate Cambodia's sovereignty, this is quite the opposite of the truth. Through the fact that Vietnam has propped up the communist Heng Samrin regime and imposed it on the Cambodian people, Cambodia's sovereignty has already been lost. In fact the temporary UN administration is the only way to allow the Cambodian people to vote and choose a sovereign administrative regime for Cambodia.

Will the Hun Sen group come up with other pretexts or will it agree to the plan of the five major powers? We shall see shortly.

Khieu Samphan Supports Accord

BK3008024290 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Report on interview with Cambodian Vice President Khieu Samphan on 29 August—read by announcer]

[Text] On 29 August 1990, His Excellency Khieu Samphan, vice president of Cambodia in charge of foreign affairs, granted an interview to representatives of our Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea and Voice of Democratic Kampuchea on the document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC]. The following is the full text of this interview:

[Representative] On 28 August, the five UNSC permanent members issued a communique on the framework for an overall settlement of the Cambodian problem. This document contains five important chapters. What is your opinion?

[Khieu Samphan] As the victim, we want to end the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia as soon as possible. The Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance forces have suffered untold misery for the past nearly 12 years due to this war and have made countless sacrifices and encountered all kinds of difficulties. Therefore, we want peace as soon as possible. The only objective of our struggle is restoration of peace in Cambodia.

The Party of Democratic Cambodia totally supports the statement of the five UNSC permanent members on Cambodia dated 28 August 1990, both its prologue and the five chapters, for use as the basis for the comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem. Moreover, I will discuss this matter in the near future with the two other parties of the Cambodian national government and Cambodian national resistance forces to confirm the support of the Cambodian national government and Cambodian national resistance forces for the five UNSC permanent members' statement in the near future.

People 'Fully Support' Resistance Statement

BK3008033090 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Station editorial: "All Cambodian People, Cadres, and Combatants of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea on all Battlefields Joyfully Voice Their Full Support for the Joint Statement Issued on 22 August 1990 by the Leaders of the Cambodian National Government and Cambodian National Resistance Forces"]

[Text] Leaders of the Cambodian National Government and the Cambodian national resistance forces met on 22 August under the chairmanship of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia and head of the Cambodian national resistance forces, and issued a joint communique supporting the idea of the ASEAN countries which proposed that the cochairmen of the Paris international conference organize a meeting of the four Cambodian factions in Jakarta, Indonesia, to discuss the establishment of the Cambodian supreme national council [SNC] in the transitional period. The joint statement expressed support for the continuous efforts made by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] and the documents that they adopted successively for use as the framework for an overall political settlement of the Cambodian problem.

Cadres and combatants of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea on all battlefields throughout the country and all Cambodian people are satisfied with and fully support this statement which once again clearly displays the goodwill of the Cambodian National Government and the three Cambodian national resistance groups desiring to end the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia as soon as possible.

We are of the opinion that the efforts made by the ASEAN countries and the five UNSC permanent members within the framework of the Paris international conference and the documents of the five UNSC permanent members constitute an appropriate basis for an overall settlement of the Cambodian problem, thus restoring peace and stability in Cambodia and ensuring peace, security, and stability in Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region.

But, the aggressor Hanoi authorities and their puppet-lackeys have rejected both the ASEAN proposal for a Cambodian four-party meeting in Jakarta in order to set up the SNC and all the documents on a comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian problem issued by the five UNSC permanent members. Thus, the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppet-lackeys have once again laid bare their true nature as the aggressors and traitors who always oppose anything that leads toward ending the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia. They have opposed the ASEAN countries, the five UNSC permanent members, UN role, and the comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian problem.

VOK: Khmer Rouge Prepare To Attack Siem Reap

BK3008070490 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] A noncommunist Cambodian resistance official yesterday disclosed that hundreds of Khmer Rouge troops are preparing to surround and attack Siem Reap provincial town in the future. Khmer Rouge troops have already started to attack and destroy a number of defensive positions in the suburbs surrounding Siem Reap town. The source said the Khmer Rouge have dispatched reinforcements and a great deal of supplies to a number of areas near Siem Reap town.

VOK Says Troops Attack Siem Reap Positions

BK3008082790 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] The general staff of the National Army of Independent Kampuchea [ANKI] says that on Tuesday [28 August] the ANKI attacked positions of the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin troops in the Kompong Kdei and Chikreng areas along Route 6 in Siem Reap Province. Thirty-five Vietnamese-Heng Samrin troops were killed on the spot and some war materiel was seized.

The report says on Tuesday a battalion of ANKI troops from the 15th Division launched a four-pronged attack against Vietnamese-Heng Samrin military positions in Kompong Kdei and Chikreng Districts in Siem Reap Province. The battle lasted for five and a half hours. The ANKI killed 35 Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers on the spot and wounded a number of others and seized 25 AK-47's and a rocket. The ANKI destroyed 150 rifles in two warehouses. In this attack, two ANKI soldiers died, and another was wounded. The ANKI is continuing the attack to put pressure on the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin positions in Kompong Kdei District.

Indonesia

Manpower Minister on Workers in Gulf Countries

BK2908131790 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Manpower Minister Kosmas Batubara has urged relatives of Indonesian workers in Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia to remain calm. Eighty out of the 100 Indonesians in Iraq are Indonesian Embassy officials and their family members, while the remaining 20 are workers. They are currently in Amman awaiting their return to the country. Meanwhile, the Indonesian workers who are still in Saudi Arabia are reported to be safe. Minister Kosmas Batubara, who was accompanied by the Saudi ambassador to Indonesia, Ta'lat Amin Hamdi, said this during a news conference in Jakarta this morning. The Saudi ambassador said his government would guarantee their safety as it did likewise for their own citizens.

Replying to newsmen's questions, Minister Kosmas Batubara said since the fourth of this month, the flow of Indonesian manual workers to Saudi Arabia has resumed its normalcy, and the workers' safety was guaranteed by the Saudi authorities.

Murdani Wants End to Ethnic Chinese Segregation

BK2608102590 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 16 Aug 90 p 1

[Excerpt] Jakarta (JP) Defense and Security Minister L.B. Murdani says the emergence of what the people call conglomerates is initiated by the societal partitions installed by indigenous Indonesians after independence.

Speaking at a discussion commemorating the 45th anniversary of the country sponsored by the National Youth Committee (KNPI) here yesterday Murdani said, "We did build dividing such screens (sekat) and let them (non-indigenous Indonesians) play in economic fields only. So please do not be surprised that they have been growing only in economic sectors. That's all because of us indigenous Indonesians' actions." He said the indigenous Indonesians should not blame certain ethnic groups who were successful economically, but "let's do some introspection".

According to the minister, Indonesia, like other countries in the world has various ethnic and racial groups, who are all determined to develop the country. In the colonial era, he said, Indonesians of foreign descent or non-indigenous groups were utilized by the Western colonial power as the partition between native Indonesians and themselves. "But after Indonesia became independent, the indigenous people began constructing separating screens for those non-indigenous groups, he went on. Such ethnic issues could easily become majority and minority issues which could endanger the national unity, so "Forget this. Let's build the country together," he said.

He said the armed forces (ABRI) had been setting a good example in eliminating ethnic issues. "Both indigenous and non-indigeous Indonesians who meet the qualification enter ABRI and can compete with each other healthily in their careers." "We should have the courage to gradually pull down the partitions we have installed between us and certain ethnic groups, if we do not want to see them growing exclusively," he said. "Let's be wise." [passage omitted]

TEMPO Interviews Army Strategic Commander

BK2808091590 Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 18 Aug 90 p 24

["Excerpts" of interview with Major General Wismoyo Arismunandar, newly installed commander of the Army Strategic Command, by TEMPO correspondent Diah Purnomowati in Jakarta on 13 August]

[Text] [Purnomowati] Will you enforce at Kostrad [Army Strategic Command] the regulation you created when you were still a regional military commander that junior officers must produce written works for their promotion?
[Arismunandar] Yes, certainly. Nowadays officers are faced with a different demand and they must be technocratic officers. When you want to write, you have to read a lot of reference books first. Reading will widen your horizon. Look, village chiefs were illiterate people, but now they have degrees. If village officials are only primary school graduates, how is it possible to have good teamwork? The present demand is that military officers must be able to sit down and talk with college students, technocrats, and other groups. Now we have entered the era of information and openness. Therefore, we must be fully prepared.

I was a 38-year-old colonel when I assumed the post of group commander of Kopassus [Indonesian Special Forces]. My philosophy is: Know yourself, know your enemy. If you know both, then you understand things. When I first assumed the post of Kopassus group commander, I tried to understand my subordinates. In the past I used to have negative thoughts. When I met a person I usually thought: "This man is no good." I changed that attitude when I turned 38. We must remove hatred and develop positive thinking [two preceding words in English], which will develop our personality.

[Purnomowati] In his speech at your installation as Kostrad commander, the army chief of staff said Kostrad must become a unit with great mobility that stresses the importance of self-training. What do you think of that?
[Arismunandar] When I was a group commander at Serang, the group had not conducted any exercises for a long time. I summoned the 11th detachment and told them to hold a bonfire party with the local people. When the civilians had gone, I summoned the 12th detachment and told them to launch a simulated attack on the 11th detachment without using any textbook tactic. The next

morning they returned to the barracks, the exercise was over, and no expenditures spent. Besides, whenever I give a briefing to my subordinates, I always stop to ask them what I have said. They have to concentrate hard, and no one is sleepy.

[Purnomowati] What will you do at the Kostrad?
[Arismunandar] Well, things seem to be easier at Kostrad. We are talking about the soldiers' special ability for war. We should be prepared for war during peace time and soldiers must be ready for war. If they are not, what will happen to the country? They must continue to hold exercises. If not, we will be attacked from every direction.

[Purnomowati] What are your goals?
[Arismunandar] To be prepared for war. Since my childhood I have always had an ambition to be a soldier. I like military life, which is a kind of devotion and pride. The war at that time might have conditioned my way of thinking. When I was a first-grade primary school student, I always asked my uncle to tell me war stories. When I was a third-grade primary school student, I often visited the military barracks in Madiun.

[Purnomowati] Is that why you have become a soldier?
[Arismunandar] As a soldier, you are in a situation of killing or being killed, and I do not want to be killed. Therefore, I like to read books on war strategy. Know yourself and know your enemy. This is something fundamental. An officer must be knowledgable. Here, if you want to study go ahead and I will pay for the tuition fee, but no one is going because everyone is busy with his own duties.

[Purnomowati] People often wonder why three military posts, namely those of Armed Forces commander, Kostrad commander, and chief of the Jakarta Regional Military Command are now occupied by officers who are close to President Suharto?
[Arismunandar] An aide-de camp belongs to a group of selected soldiers who have superior ability. Therefore, it is natural if they rise fast in the hierarchy.

[Purnomowati] A Kostrad commander will usually become a national leader later, for instance Pak Harto [President Suharto] and Pak Rudini [home affairs minister].
[Arismunandar] It is God's will. Rumors that I would be appointed Kostrad commander had been rife for a long time because I happened to be most senior among the rest. I was already a brigadier general when I was 43. They have to slow down my rise a bit.

[Purnomowati] Before you were appointed Kostrad commander, were you summoned to Cendana Road [President Suharto's residence] first?
[Arismunandar] No. I only got the letter of appointment. I rarely go there, to the extent that Bu Tien [Mrs. Suharto] once asked me: "Are we still relatives?" When I go there, I will of course wear civilian clothes.

[Purnomowati] Have you also heard negative reactions to your appointment as Kostrad commander?
[Arismunandar] Do you think the president sacrificed the Special Force by appointing his relative as its commander? Do you think he will also sacrifice Kostrad, which has such a huge number of personnel? It is impossible for the president to do so, and it would not be like him to sacrifice ABRI [Indonesian Armed Forces]. Many of his relatives do not assume any posts.

[Purnomowati] Are you upset with such negative reactions?
[Arismunandar] Do not listen to them.

Laos

Cambodian Foreign Relations Delegation Arrives

BK3008043090 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] In response to an invitation of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee, a delegation of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] Central Committee led by Comrade Prach Sun, vice chairman of the committee, arrived for a visit to Laos last Tuesday [28 August]. Yesterday, it held talks with the Lao side. The Lao delegation was headed by Comrade Soulivong Phasitthidet, vice chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the LPRP Central Committee.

In the meeting, the two sides exchanged views on the domestic situation and international issues of common interest. They also discussed their relations and cooperation in the immediate future.

The visit to Laos by the Foreign Relations Committee of the KPRP Central Committee on this occasion has significantly contributed to the strengthening of the special solidarity and friendship between the LPRP and the KPRP as well as between the two peoples of Laos and Cambodia.

Cambodian Control Commission Group Holds Talks

BK3008035190 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] A meeting was held between Lao and Cambodian delegations in Vientiane today to discuss party Central Committee control work. The Lao delegation was headed by Comrade Maichantan Sengmani, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and chairman of the Control Commission of the party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers. The Cambodian delegation was headed by Comrade Mat Ly, member of the Political Bureau of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] Central Committee and vice chairman of the Control Commission of the party Central Committee.

Comrade Ounla Sai-gnasan, member of the LPRP Central Committee and vice chairman of the Control Commission of the party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers, told a correspondent of the KPL news agency at this meeting that the two sides informed one another about the state of comprehensive modification in their respective countries. They had in-depth discussions about their experiences in carrying out control work. In addition, they assessed the changes of the present world situation, in particular the situation in Asia in relation to Laos and Cambodia as well as in relation to Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam.

The delegation of the Control Commission of the KPRP Central Committee arrived in Vientiane yesterday for a 10-day visit to Laos.

Students Demonstrate in Prague for Reforms

AU2708093590 Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech 17 Aug 90 p 2

["brp"-signed report: "They Do Not Want the Party"]

[Text] Prague— More than 50 Lao students demonstrated in front of the Lao Embassy in Prague yesterday morning. They demanded, among other things, a multi-party political system in Laos and the departure of the 70,000 Vietnamese soldiers from their country. They also protested against the intended codification of the leading role of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party in the country's constitution, which is planned for December. After Paris and Warsaw, Prague has thus become the third European city where Lao students have staged a demonstration against the situation in their country.

(Thongphone Keosaydeth), Lao charge d'affaires, who received the students, first handed over to the demonstrators an embassy statement, according to which such gatherings only pursue the aim of breaking up the state system in Laos and are initiated by Lao political emigres. He appealed to the demonstrators to immediately disperse. He also called for the disbandment of the Organization of Lao Students Fighting for Freedom, which is in the making. It was only after stalling for a while that the charge d'affaires accepted a resolution containing the students' demands. The students are afraid that they might now be deprived of their scholarships. They agreed that in that case they would have no choice but to apply for political asylum in Czechoslovakia. Still, in the course of the morning, the Laotian students also handed over a written protest to the Vietnamese Embassy.

Sportsmen Depart for Training in PRC's Yunnan

BK2908095390 Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Vientiane, August 29 (KPL)—Twenty sportsmen left here on August 26 to Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China and later will attend the 11th Asian Games, scheduled to be held in Beijing from September 22 to October 7, 1990, according to the Lao Sports Department.

In Yunnan, the Lao sportsmen will undergo training and will enjoy cooperation from the sports teams of Yunnan Province.

The Lao sports teams are to take part in the 11th Asian Games in international amateur boxing, track and field, rattan ball, table tennis, and shooting.

Two months before, the Chinese Olympic Committee has sent a gift to the Lao Olympic Committee. The gift included sports gear, table tennis balls, and rackets. They were used for training Lao sportsmen to the 11th Asian Games.

Philippines

Manglapus Arrives in Baghdad for Talks 29 Aug

HK3008060790 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus arrived in Baghdad yesterday to arrange the evacuation of stranded Filipino overseas workers in Iraq and Kuwait. Secretary Manglapus is scheduled to meet with Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz to discuss the measures which will be carried out by the Philippines and Iraq regarding the evacuation proceedings for Filipinos.

Last week, when Secretary Manglapus visited Iran, the Iranian authorities agreed to receive fleeing Filipinos following exit approval by the Iraqi Government.

Meanwhile, it is said that Secretary Manglapus' visit erased doubts and concern among the Filipino workers there. However, it had also raised a big question in diplomatic circles, especially on the Philippine position regarding the sanctions being enforced by the United Nations.

'May Be Allowed' To Visit Kuwait

HK2908132190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1312 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Manila, Aug 29 (AFP)—Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, currently in Iraq, may be allowed by Baghdad to visit Kuwait, the foreign department said here Wednesday. "Iraq is trying to arrange for him to go" to Kuwait, Philippine Foreign Undersecretary Pablo Suarez told reporters.

Mr. Manglapus, who arrived in Baghdad on Tuesday on the third leg of a Middle East tour which earlier took him to Iran and Jordan, is seeking safe passage for tens of thousands of Filipinos trapped in Kuwait.

Teheran earlier agreed to open its borders to Filipino evacuees on the condition that Baghdad, its enemy in the eight-year Gulf War which ended in 1988, agreed to the plan.

Mr. Suarez said the Philippine embassy in Kuwait continued to harbor about 7,000 Filipinos, and that unlike some Western missions, its electricity and water supply has remained intact even after it lost diplomatic status. The staff plan to remain in Kuwait until the last Filipino has been evacuated.

Meanwhile, the foreign department has started taking depositions of Filipinas allegedly raped by the occupation forces in Kuwait in preparation for a diplomatic protest to be lodged against Baghdad, assistant secretary for intelligence Vicente Perez told reporters.

Military Chief Says Coup Will Not Occur

HK2708112990 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Text] The military stressed anew that no coup d'etat will take place in the country. This was learned from AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] vice chief of staff Major General Rodolfo Biazon. According to Biazon, the military is prepared to defend the republic against its enemies.

At the same time, Biazon admitted that the series of bank robberies and car thefts could be the handiwork of rightist rebels. But he also said that the military believe the people's power to be stronger than that of the enemies.

In a related development, it is unlikely that President Aquino will declare martial law. This was the contention of House Minority Floorleader Salvador Escudero III. According to Escudero, as the military is plagued with factionalism, it cannot support the government in case martial law is declared.

Escudero also stressed that when the late President Marcos proclaimed martial law in 1972, the military was still wholly behind the regime.

Constitutional 'Crisis' Said Handled Clumsily

HK2908044390 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 29 Aug 90 pp 1, 7

["Analysts" by Amando Doronila: "Congress Responding Clumsily to the Crisis"]

[Text] Members of Congress returned yesterday from their recess, confronted with the challenge to respond to the gravest constitutional crisis facing the Republic since the overthrow of former President Marcos.

According to the Speaker of the House, Ramon Mitra Jr., the congressmen have been assessing how much loyalty the Aquino Government is getting from their constituencies in the face of the campaign of destabilization against the government in Manila. They have also tried to mobilize the loyalty and support of the local civic and political leaders for the beleaguered government.

The thrust of the mobilization, according to Mitra, is to forge an alliance with local military commanders seen to be loyal to the government. Recognizing the danger being faced by the constitutional system from plans to overthrow it, Mitra stressed that the congressmen were concerned about the survival of the system, in which Congress is a key political institution, with the Aquino Government being only incidental to the system.

But I am afraid that Congress is addressing the wrong issues. First of all, the real danger to this government and the constitutional system does not come from the dissident military groups but from possible mainstream military intervention aimed at reversing the downhill slide of the country and turn it around. Thus, the efforts of congressmen to link local groups loyal to the government and the democratic system with the loyal military commanders may be misplaced.

This perspective of the constitutional crisis discloses that Congress is demonstrating a clumsy and cumbersome response to the crisis, and it would seem that it is, like the presidency, being overtaken by events. The issue in today's constituional crisis is how to stop the disintegration of civil society and the collapse of the constitutional system and to establish political stability upon which economic recovery and growth can be mounted. The bombings are merely symptoms of the crisis.

According to Mitra, the move is gaining ground in the House to transform Congress into a constituent assembly that would change the political structure—including possibly a shift to a parliamentary system. Such a change would allow an early election so that hopes can be raised in the people that in a period of paralysis and immobility of the political leadership, they can effect political change without waiting for the end of the term of the Aquino presidency in 1992 and avoid a new authoritarianism.

He thinks that this can be done in three months. But there are apparently insurmountable obstacles. The Senate is cool to the idea—understandably because in a parliamentary system, the Senate could be wiped out of existence, making the senators redundant. The second problem is that, at the rate the events are unfolding, the crisis could come to a head before both houses of Congress can get their act together.

What this demonstrates is that Congress is too cumbersome to respond to crisis effectively. The implication is that the priority project of the Aquino presidency in restoring the major institutions of democracy is crumbling. The institutional frame work for this restoration—which rests on the two major political institutions, the Executive and the Legislative—is coming apart under the stress of economic crisis and the failure to provide purposeful and visionary leadership to the nation.

Under the Aquino government's conception of reestablishment of democracy, the restortation of these key institutions is sufficient to make democracy function. They are believed to create their own life; in reality, it requires programmatic and policy support to strengthen these structures and make them effective mechanisms to solve problems, reconcile conflicts and promote policy goals.

Thus, there is little hope that the House option—that is, the constituent assembly to amend the Constitution to restructure the political system—can get off the ground.

According to Mitra, the House leadership will oppose the declaration of martial law (consent for which by Congress is required by the Constitution), because the government "is incompetent to handle" martial law. He said this would only hand power to the military, the executor of martial-law decrees.

Mitra recognizes that the most important thing is "we get to 1992" and that "this is our last chance to make democracy work." So Congress is under pressure to offer a crisis-defusing mechanism. The question is, apart from the constituent assembly formula, there is nothing else in sight from Congress. The other question is whether the fast-moving events will allow Congress to take its sweet time to produce initiatives. The crisis is intensifying and the stalemate begs for an early resolution.

The bombings in Manila are vintage 1971-72, during the final days of collapse of pre-martial law democracy. Bombs exploded in selected places and strategic public utilities—water system and electric power stations—but no one was ever caught. The reason was that President Marcos engineered the campaign to create a climate of uncertainty and heighten the crisis coming from social and political unrest questioning the political order.

It is not likely the Aquino government is responsible for planting the bombs to create a crisis for itself. This interpretation is foolish. What is certain is that the continuing campaign offers a reason for those impatient with the muddling-through and paralysis of the Aquino government to make it declare a national emergency that will open the way for military intervention.

But since the Aquino government has lost all its policy options to cope with the crisis, there is only one choice left to save itself—a declaration of emergency. This is the equivalent of driving the nail in the coffin of the Aquino government, indeed a nail into the coffin of the restoration democracy, vintage 1986.

One may recall with sadness what the former Argentinian President, Raul Alfonsin, said in his 1983 inaugural address; "it is through democracy that we will be able to resolve national issues. There is no other way. All else has been tried; all else has been tested; and all else has failed."

But it is also true that, as the Wasington-based National Democratic Institute of International Relations, in a paper on civili-military relations in Argentina, said: "Democracy is not an abstract ideal. Rather it is a practical framework for responding to the economic, social and security problems faced by Latin American countries today."

Having failed to respond to these problems arising from transition and change, our restoration of democracy is now convulsed by the paroxysm of death.

Thailand

More Coverage on Air Base, Workers in Mideast

U.S. Denies Base for Operations

BK3008050390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Aug 90 p A6

[By Tim Cornwell in Washington]

[Text] United States aircraft routinely transit Thai facilities, but the American government has not asked to use the U-Taphao airbase as a staging area for US forces, the State Department said Tuesday. "We have left it to other governments to comment on what support they may be providing to the multinational efforts to deal with the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait," a spokesman said in a prepared statement.

REUTERS news agency earlier this week quoted an unnamed Pentagon official as saying that U-Taphao, a US airbase during the Vietnam War, was being secretly used by US Marines not just as a transit point but as "a staging area too." But US officials said U-Taphao was used only as an "occasional transit facility" under an agreement with the Thai Government, as it had been for a number of years. "There's nothing mysterious. It's not operational. They are supply flights. We need to refuel once in a while," a well-placed Administration official said. There's nothing covert."

"The Thai government is a responsible member of the world community. We take the cooperation that the Thai government is willing to extend with some gratitude. It's in their interests, and it's in the interest of the world community."

The spokesman Tuesday refused to reveal the details of flights passing through U-Taphao, in line with Pentagon policy of keeping secret the details of all deployments to the Gulf for security reasons. But every movement has prior approval from the host country, the official said.

U-Taphao was one of seven airbases in Thailand from which the US government staged operations against North Vietnam. With its long runways, it was a major base for B-52 heavy bombers and unlike other bases, it could be supplied easily by sea from the nearby Sattahip naval base. In recent years it has been reported to have been used by the Chinese government for supplying the Khmer Rouge and their allies in the Cambodian conflict.

Asian specialists here said they would not be if Thailand's allowed the United States to use the base, given that the confrontation with President Saddam Husayn was an international affair and not a bilateral conflict between the United States and Iraq. [sentence as published]

"A number of those governments, although they have supported UN resolutions, are very concerned not to be out in front partly because of their guest workers in the Gulf," one former diplomat commented.

It remained unclear why the United States would use U-Taphao rather than other airbases, for example in the Philippines. "I can't see any special advantage to using U-Taphao," said one analyst.

US marines used U-Taphao in May 1975 as a staging point for their attempt to rescue the 40-man crew of the freighter Mayaguez, seized by the Khmer Rouge. But the US government acted without consulting Thai authorities and the incident, in the wake of the Vietnam War, drove a wedge between Bangkok and Washington. An administration official stressed Tuesday that relations between the two countries were now those of "equal partners" and a "marriage of interests." That relationship has included the United States making available to Thailand excess defence equipment that has become available as the Cold War warms up.

"Both Thailand and the US are comfortable with the commitment of each other to assist in whatever way is necessary and appropriate" said the administration official. "If there are any supply flights or troop-carrying flights through U-Taphao, it's only because it's part of that bigger cooperation."

A US Emabssy in Bangkok spokesman said yesterday American aircraft have been using Thai facilities but denied using any of them as a staging area of US forces in the Gulf.

Iraq Gives Warning on Base

BK3008013190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Aug 90 p 1

[Text] Iraq will "reciprocate" against Thailand if it is confirmed the United States is using the U-Taphao naval base as a transit point and staging area in its military build-up in the Persian Gulf, a visiting representative from Iraq's ruling Ba'th party said yesterday. Khalaf Khatib, who is part of the two-member delegation from the Arab Socialist Party (Ba'th) arrived in Bangkok four days ago "to explain the real situation in the Gulf and provide background on the special relationship between Iraq and Kuwait.

"We are hoping that Thailand would not take such a dangerous step to cause the Gulf situation to deteriorate and to consider the interests and relations between Thailand and Iraq. We believe Thailand has enough wisdom and long-sightedness to keep friendly relations with Iraq."

Mr Khatib said he did not believe the US had stationed at least 10 C-5 Galaxy transport planes at U-Taphao as reported by news agencies. "But if the reports are confirmed, it will force us to reciprocate," he said.

Asked how Iraq would reciprocate and if such action would affect more than 3,000 Thai workers still stranded in Kuwait and Iraq, Mr Khatib said he would have to report to his government and request advice. "We are keen to keep foreigners in good health and we have no objections if any want to leave. They can go, and we will provide the facilities," he said.

On the long-standing relationship between Iraq and Kuwait, Iraqi Ambassador to Bangkok Munir Shihab Ahmad said both countries had been one until they were divided by British colonialism after World War One. "It was British colonialism and its discovery of oil in the region which led to the separation of Kuwait. But we have never recognised Kuwait as an independent entity since then."

Mr Ahmad said Britain had done its utmost to maintain the two as separate countries in order "to organise oil theft." He claimed Kuwait had requested assistance from Iraq and that "not one shot" had been fired by Iraqi forces. "It is against our Arab philosophy and ideology to kill our Arab brothers."

The ambassador said Kuwait wished to reunify with Iraq and that it was legitimate.

"Why are the US, Europe, and even Japan not offended by the reunification of the two Germanies," he said.

Mr Khatib said the US and Saudi Arabian military buildup was aimed at occupying Arab land and stealing Arab oil. "The US forces are not just to maintain Saudi Arabia, but also to ensure US interests in this very strategic part of the world. "We will refuse such a kind of invasion. Iraq has not waged war against the US or the West. We have not attacked their interests."

There was already a non-aggression pact between Iraq and Saudi Arabia, "so the US forces in the Gulf assume a means to steal oil."

He reiterated that "as an Arab country, we can solve the problems through the Arab League."

Dr Ka'isi, the other member of the delegation from Ba'th said: "If attacked, we will do our best." Asked if chemical weapons will be used, he said: "We shall use all means."

Asked about the possibility of Iraqi forces withdrawing from Kuwait, Mr Munir said: "How can we withdraw from our own homeland? It is a matter of reunification." He instead proposed that the US withdraw its forces and that the international community abolish its sanctions and blockade against Iraq.

Workers for U.S. Facilities Viewed

BK3008044390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Aug 90 p A4

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Labour Director General Siri Kewalinsiri said yesterday a total of 2,683 Thai workers, including 166 women and five children, have already been flown back to Bangkok from Amman on 19 flights.

Sarit, commenting on reports that the United States was planning to recruit Thai workers to build military installations in some Gulf states, said the Labour Department would take into consideration the safety of Thai workers before deciding whether to allow them to take up the employment. He said the government must also consider whether the presence of Thai workers in the US military projects would affect the relations between Thailand and some Gulf states.

Tens of thousands of US troops have already been deployed in Saudi Arabia bordering Kuwait, invaded and occupied by Iraqi forces since early this month, to deter Iraq from further aggression.

Kopsak Chutikun Interviewed

BK3008074190 Bangkok Thai Color Television Channel 3 in Thai 1450 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Interview with Kopsak Chutikun, ambassador attached to the Foreign Ministry, by THE NATION editor Sutthichai Yun on special series entitled "Probing the Gulf Crisis"—live]

[Text] [Sutthichai] Today, I have invited Kopsak Chutikun, ambassador attached to the foreign ministry, who has recently visited the Middle East on three separate occasions and is very familiar with the current situation there.

Hello, Mr. Ambassador. I just received a REUTER report saying that Jordan has announced that there are currently 2 million foreigners stranded in the Middle East. Among these, 5,300 Thais are in Kuwait and another 6,200 are in Iraq. Are these figures current?

[Kopsak] The figures are quite inaccurate. Only 50 Thais remain in Kuwait now, and these people have volunteered to stay, saying they have property there and feel no pressing need to return to Thailand.

[Sutthichai] How many Thais remain in Iraq?

[Kopsak] Some 3,000 Thais currently work there, but only about 40 have said they want to leave Iraq.

[Sutthichai] Does this mean that the remainder want to stay in Iraq?

[Kopsak] They said the situation is not that serious for them and pointed out that they still hold jobs. They said soldiers were not roaming the streets, and there was no fighting, so they wanted to stay to work and continue receiving their pay.

[Sutthichai] They suffer no food shortages?

[Kopsak] They said shortages have existed for eight years because of the Iraq-Iran war. They can bear it. However, this afternoon about 600 workers employed by one firm said they wanted to leave.

[Sutthichai] How many flights will be needed?

[Kopsak] we have tried to increase the number of flights. Thai Airways International and Royal Jordanian run about two flights daily. At the current rate I expect all workers to be able to return home by next Monday or Tuesday.

[Sutthichai] It is quite quick; so we feel some relief. Mr. Ambassador, having served for such a long time in foreign policy matters and having traveled frequently to the Middle East, do you think a war will break out?

[Kopsak] This is difficult to predict. Whoever could predict the outcome could also predict the winning lottery number.

[Sutthichai] Judging from the situation, which course—war or negotiated settlement—has a greater chance?

[Kopsak] There is now a greater tendency toward negotiations.

[Sutthichai] About 50 percent?

[Kopsak] I think so. Because the size of the confronting forces is so big, anything, including an accident, is possible. There are three possible triggers. If ships leaving and entering Iraq and Kuwait refuse to obey the instruction of the U.S. and international blockade forces, a clash could start. Second, hurting the hostages could also trigger a war.

[Sutthichai] The United States could seize this opportunity to justify an attack.

[Kopsak] An attack is necessary because otherwise the United States will lose face badly.

[Sutthichai] What is the third flash point?

[Kopsak] The Kuwait-Saudi Arabia border is the so-called no man's land over which no country has control. The Iraqi forces regard this land as belonging to the former Kuwait and now belonging to Iraq, while Saudi Arabia and the United States regard it as Saudi Territory. Therefore, moving any tank, plane, or soldier onto the territory could be interpreted by the other side as an attack. A misunderstanding could easily occur.

[Sutthichai] This is the final question. If you were the foreign minister, what would be the Thai policy on this issue?

[Kopsak] Please allow me not to answer this.

[Sutthichai] How about as a Thai citizen who has the right to his opinion, what should the Thai policy be?

[Kopsak] I think the current Thai policy is the most correct, because our interests in the Middle East are diversified. It is a market for our workers and for 30-billion-baht worth of our exports. It is our major oil supplier. Being a region of Muslim countries, we must maintain good relations with all countries there. It is necessary for us to have good relations with the Muslim countries because we have Muslim citizens in the south.

A wrong understanding could lead to interference in our internal affairs. For this reason, we want to maintain good relations with every country in the Middle East.

Labor Department on Evacuation

BK3008015190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Aug 90 p 3

[Text] The evacuation of Thai workers who escaped from Kuwait to Jordan will be completed by the middle of next month, Labour Department director-general Siri Kewalinsiri said yesterday.

Mr Siri said a total of 2,638 Thai workers have returned home since the evacuation started two weeks ago and 40 others are still stranded in Kuwait. Foreign Ministry spokesman Somphong Faichampa said only about 30 Thais are still stranded in Kuwait, while 4,000 are in Amman and 2,100 others are at the Iraqi-Jordanian border. Mr Somphong said five more Thai officials from the Labour Department and the Foreign Ministry left for Jordan last night to help thousands of stranded Thai workers awaiting evacuation.

Another official from the Thai Embassy in Spain will also join the group and later visit the holding centre in Amman and the camp set up at the Iraqi-Jordanian border.

The International Red Cross also provided assistance to the stranded Thai workers, Mr Somphong said.

Thai Airways International has arranged for 10 flights to carry Thai workers from Amman to Bangkok.

Meanwhile, Mr Siri said the department sent two tonnes of food to Amman last Saturday but could not distribute it to the Thais because Jordanian officials wanted the food to be distributed among Indian and Pakistani workers as well. Thai officials are still negotiating with the Jordanian Government on this problem.

He also denied a report that no labour officials are helping the stranded Thai workers. Mr Siri said labour officials are in Amman but loaded with other tasks, taking workers from the border to the camp, sending workers to the airport and supplying food and coordinating with Jordanian and airline officials.

Concerning a report that the US wants to employ 5,000 Thais in Saudi Arabia, Mr Siri said Thai officials in Saudi Arabia are not aware of the report but Thai officials in Washington have been asked to check it.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi Government has asked the Thai Government to help evacuate six Burmese workers as Thailand has good relations with Burma.

Government spokesman Suwit Yotmani said the committee formed to help Thai workers in the Middle East, which is headed by the Prime Minister, will meet representatives from all concerned ministries today in an effort to increase the speed at which workers return home.

The Government has secured a Thai 747 to fly to Amman today and, after that the Jordanian, Irish and Egyptian Airlines will be used to fly Thai workers home until Saturday. It is expected that 1,500 workers will be evacuated.

Dr Suwit said the Government had asked the Iraqi Government to ensure the safety of Thai women and keep soldiers away from Thai women. There have been no further reports of abuses of Thai women in Kuwait.

He does not think the change of ministers at the Foreign Ministry will affect evacuation work as only former deputy minister Praphat Limpaphan will no longer be involved.

Foreign Ministry on Workers

BK2908141390 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Ministry Spokesman Somphong Faichampa said this afternoon that 760 Thai workers had arrived in Jordan from Baghdad, Iraq, yesterday. There are now no more than 30 Thai workers remaining in Kuwait as most of the Thai workers had already left. Up to now, about 4,000 Thai workers fled into Jordan—2,100 at the Jordanian-Iraqi border and the rest in Amman. In addition, Iraqi Foreign Ministry officials yesterday met the Thai ambassador to Iraq and, as Thailand has good relations with Burma, they asked him to help evacuate six Burmese people.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said that five officials from the Foreign Ministry and the Labor Department will leave for Amman, Jordan, tonight to work at the Thai workers evacuation center in Amman, in addition to the four officials who have already been there. Moreover, an official from the Thai Embassy in Spain will also go there later. It is pleased to note that Thai students have also helped the operations of the center.

Somphong Faichampa said that the Thai Airways International Company has prepared 10 flights, which will be able to bring back about 3,000 Thai workers. It is also contacting other airlines to help send back the Thai workers.

Officials on Mideast, Cambodia

BK3008140390 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan and Deputy Foreign Minister Amnuai Yotsuk late this morning held a press session with newsmen at the ministry. They reported on their meeting with officials of the ministry, including the permanent secretary, deputy permanent secretary, and directors general of the ministry departments. They had a briefing with the ministry officials about the work of the ministry. The foreign minister and his deputy stressed the role of the ministry in implementing the policies formulated by the prime minister, as well as taking charge of the issues of concern and interest to the people, such the problem in the Middle East and Cambodia. They pledged to carry on the projects already started by the former foreign minister, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila.

Foreign Minister Subin said that he will visit ASEAN countries in order to get acquainted with ASEAN foreign ministers, a customary practice of a new foreign minister. On the problem in the Middle East, he said that the Thai embassy in Kuwait will not be closed and evacuation of Thai workers will continue. He said that nearly all Thai workers had been evacuated out of Kuwait. There are only about 50 of them stranded there because of some remaining problems. A total number of 4,500 workers has been evacuated from Kuwait. Of that number, 1,000 are now in Jordan, 2,000 in Iraq, and 1,500 in Yemen. The evacuation committee is taking charge of the evacuation with a budget allocated.

On the Cambodian problem, Minister Subin said the efforts pursued by the Government and the Foreign Ministry to achieve a peace settlement is correct. There is hope for success. An ASEAN conference has been held prior to the meeting of the UN General Assembly. There will be a meeting of the four Cambodian factions later on. The results of the meeting of the permanent members of the UN Security Council will serve as guidelines for the four Cambodian factions to hold negotiations.

PM Adviser Urges Phnom Penh To Join Talks

BK3008014590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Aug 90 p A4

[By Thawibun Sisuworanan]

[Text] Thailand yesterday urged the government in Phnom Penh to join its rival resistance factions in peace talks in Jakarta in an attempt to help revive the Cambodian peace process, a senior official said yesterday. Kraisak Chunhawan, Prime Minister [PM] Chatchai Chunhawan's policy adviser on Cambodia, said he sent a letter to Cambodian Deputy Foreign Minister Sok An to express Thailand's concern over the deadlock in the effort to form an interim government in Cambodia. The move, which came after a major shake-up of Chatchai Cabinet, was aimed at boosting Thailand's role in ending the current impasse in Cambodia, Kraisak said.

Thailand, with the support of the United States, helped Japan organize peace talks between Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen and resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Tokyo in June. The two leaders' agreement to form the Supreme National Council [SNC] with a definite time-frame linked to a ceasefire was rejected by the Khmer Rouge, the strongest faction in the uneasy resistance coalition government.

Kraisak said his letter to Sok An urged the Phnom Penh premier to accept Jakarta's invitation to join the proposed meeting sometime early next month and to take a flexible stance by agreeing to the SNC formula proposed by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. The Perm Five—the Soviet Union, United States, China, France and Britain—proposed that the SNC should be composed of "eminent personalities," rather than representatives from each warring faction, to help avoid a deadlock on the issue.

There have been some doubts that Indonesia's plan to organise the talks can be realised because of Phnom Penh's continued insistence that such a meeting should be considered the first of the SNC's under the Tokyo accord. Kraisak said the Perm Five formula was not contrary to the spirit of the Tokyo accord which links the setting up of the SNC to a ceasefire.

A senior official in the Foreign Ministry said the international community must try harder to persuade Vietnam and the Phnom Penh government to join the proposed meeting in Jakarta. The official who spoke on condition of anonymity said Indonesia was dispatching a delegation to Hanoi and Phnom Penh to probe the attitudes of leadership there on the meeting. He said the Foreign Ministry was still actively cooperating with Indonesia, Vietnam and China to bring all Cambodian factions to Jakarta.

The latest move of Thailand came as the Perm Five reached a "historic" breakthrough after an eight-month-long negotiation among themselves over the Cambodian problem by agreeing yesterday to have the UN take over an interim administration in Cambodia. Under the plan, the UN would eventually control five key ministries—defence, foreign affairs, finance, public security and information. Asked to comment on the Perm Five's latest proposal, Kraisak said Thailand agreed in principle to a UN role in Cambodia, but added that he needed time to study the details.

Weekly Urges Thai Consensus on Cambodian Issue

BK2908125790 Bangkok KHAO PHISET in Thai 20-26 Aug 90 p 5

[Article: "'The Three Thai Factions' Should Reach a Consensus on The Cambodian Problem Following Li Peng's Visit to Thailand"]

[Text] Chinese Premier Li Peng's stopover in Bangkok last week helped clear up various doubts on the Cambodian problem. Now it is time for all parties involved in this problem to reach their conclusions in order to carry out a policy in the same direction.

The Chinese premier has stressed once again that China will not support the Khmer Rouge's return to absolute power in Cambodia and that China will halt its military assistance to the Khmer Rouge as soon as the supreme national council is set up in Phnom Penh and other countries stop their military assistance to other Khmer factions. Premier Li Peng also stressed this point with the Indonesian and Singapore leaders before coming to Thailand.

As a result, there is no reason for anyone to worry about the so-called "return to power of the genocidal regime." Vietnam and the Heng Samrin faction have tried to trumpet the issue of "the Khmer Rouge danger" over the past 11 years. This strategy is fruitful because it has caused "cowards" like the United States and other Western countries to be senselessly afraid of a paper tiger.

This should be an issue of the past. We should not allow this cheap propaganda to hide the real problems of Cambodia.

Even more important, the Chinese leader has supported the resolution adopted by the United Nations Security Council's five permanent members on establishment of "the supreme national council" including representatives from all factions. Previously China rejected the "supreme council" as agreed at the Tokyo meeting between Prince Sihanouk and Hun Sen.

In addition, the Chinese leader has also supported the other important resolutions of the "Big Five," especially those concerning establishment of a UN-sponsored supervision committee to monitor the Vietnamese troop pullout and control a ceasefire, as well as concerning free and fair elections under the supervision of the United Nations.

This is a fair and suitable comprehensive solution to the Cambodian problem. Thailand and China have no differences on the major points of this problem.

This is another time that all parties have turned to pay attention to the efforts by this international organization. This causes all sides concerned in our country to realize that the Cambodian problem is an international issue that needs joint international efforts for a settlement. Only one or two figures in Thailand cannot help solve this complicated problem.

It is time for all sides concerned in Thailand to respect the efforts by the international community. Efforts to resolve the Cambodian problem should be carried out in accordance with the UN resolutions through international meetings within the correct venues. The international meeting in Paris is still the most suitable venue. The efforts by Indonesia and France to host meetings snould be supported. It is not necessary for any Thai faction to organize any informal meeting because it will only complicate the issue. During the past two years Thailand has sent enough wrong signals to its neighboring country that yielded no results and reflected the lack of unity among the Thai Government agencies concerned.

Under the current world situation, which is paying attention to the efforts of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, it is necessary to return this international issue to the agency that has direct responsibility for it—the Foreign Ministry, which has experts and sufficient resources.

The Chinese leader told the prime minister last week that there was not much change in the Cambodian problem during the past two years. The United Nations is still in charge of seeking a solution to this problem.

Reports on Effects of Cabinet Reshuffle Continue

Chatchai Says No Dissolution

BK3008072690 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan assured that parliament will not be dissolved and appealed for an end to the spreading and media reporting of rumors. He said this to journalists at Government House this morning, emphasizing that only the prime minister has the authority to dissolve parliament. He said people should therefore have confidence in his assurances. He said the spreading of rumors could damage the country. He reiterated that he has never said he would dissolve parliament. The prime minister added that the situation is currently good and there are no problems.

The national economic situation is good; while other countries are suffering from conflicts, they want to buy our products. For this reason, we should accelerate our production and sell more products to increase revenue. It is a waste of time for us to quarrel among ourselves.

Regarding the dissatisfaction of certain members of the Chat Thai Party with the cabinet reshuffle, the prime minister said it is natural that those who were not appointed to be disappointed, but this should cause no problem.

Chatchai Dismisses Reports of Rift

BK3008021590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Aug 89 p 3

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan yesterday dismissed press reports that cracks were developing in Chat Thai Party following the Cabinet reshuffle.

Asked if he had heard that Pramuan Saphawasu was upset at being removed as finance minister, Gen [General] Chatchai, apparently annoyed by the question, quipped: "Did you open his heart to know that he (Mr Pramuan) was upset."

The Prime Minister said he was confident there was no problem in his party and the reported rift was only the view held by the mass media.

He said all the newly appointed ministers, including Mr Pramuan, had taken part in the swearing-in ceremony yesterday, except Education Minister Thianchai Sirisamphan and University Affairs Minister Anuwat Watthanaphongsiri who were on overseas trips.

Asked by reporters if several MPs [members of parliament] were unhappy with the reshuffle and calling for a

House dissolution, Gen Chatchai commented: "Is that so? If they really want it, that will be very easy." The Prime Minister added, however, that he would not dissolve Parliament as called for by the MPs.

Gen Chatchai denied that policy advisers were actively involved in the drawing up of the new Cabinet line-up. He said that he had not consulted advisers. "How could I consult them on this type of thing?"

The Premier also denied that he had removed his advisory board chairman Gen Panya Singsakda because the general had reportedly been actively helping former military chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut form a political party. He said that Gen Han Linanon, a Chat Thai MP for Nakhon Si Thammarat, had replaced Gen Panya because he wanted to see something new. He said that Gen Han did not obtain any position in the Cabinet reshuffle and deserved the advisory post.

Interior Minister and Chat Thai secretary-general Banhan Sinlapa-acha also denied that some factions in Chat Thai were dissatisfied with the Cabinet changes. The views expressed by some MPs were personal opinions, which is normal in a democratic system, he said. He added that he was confident he would be able to talk the disgruntled MPs into accepting the changes when the party meets next month. He said he would explain the rationale of the new Cabinet line-up to a group of MPs over a dinner with them today.

Army Reactions Noted

BK3008021390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Aug 90 p A1

[By Phongsak Sisot and Kokhet Chanthaloetluck]

[Text] Former army chief Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut was urged yesterday by former staff officers to use "black and white terms" when he unveils his plans to enter politics at a gathering of the Reporters Association of Thailand tomorrow. "We told the boss (Chawalit) that it's time for him to raise his political flag. The situation is now ripe because Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's popularity rating has dropped to the lowest point," said one officer who spoke on condition of anonymity.

But the ex-deputy premier, who turned down Chatchai's offer to rejoin the cabinet before the reshuffle Monday, only tersely said he must use restraint in his speech tomorrow because he is still a senator. Chawalit said, however, he will reveal as much as he can about his future political plans during the gathering at the Imperial Hotel. "The key point he will make is that he will enter the political arena through the established channels. He will say he will play by the rules of the game," the officer said.

The officer claimed the premier, through a go-between, asked the former army chief to cancel his planned appearance at the Imperial Hotel. But Chawalit said he could not go back on his promise to show up. The officer did not identify the go-between.

The staff officers believed many government MPs [members of parliament], were discontented with the rushed way in which the premier reshuffled the Cabinet. This dissatisfaction could lead to political chaos in the Parliament when it deliberates the budget bill early next month.

Meanwhile, army sources said Army Commander-in-Chief Gen [General] Suchinda Kraphrayun voiced agreement with the appointment of three outsiders to the his Cabinet. The premier appointed Dr Wiraphong Ramangkun, Amaret Sila-on and Pol Gen [Police General] Wasit Detkunchon to be finance minister, commerce minister and deputy interior minister respectively. The appointment prompted outcries from some government MPs.

Suchinda made the comment to a group of senior army officers during an official visit to South Korea just before the reshuffle was announced Monday, said an army source who asked not to be named. "He said it's good to have outsiders in the Cabinet because now people can see who are more competent—outsiders or MPs," the source said. But Suchina refused to comment and denied any knowledge of the Cabinet reshuffle upon his return from South Korea yesterday evening, saying "I have not read a newspaper as yet."

Army sources, reflecting the views of top military leaders, said they were unhappy that PM's [prime minister's] Office Minister Chaloem Yubamrung had kept his seat in the reshuffle. The army has made its resentment toward the minister known to the prime minister. Army officers protested veiled corruption charges Chaloem made against Chawalit which led to Chawalit's resignation as deputy prime miinister and defence minister in June.

Athit on Party Nominees

BK2908120590 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 28 Aug 90

[Text] The Puangchon Chaothai Party has been included in the government for the purpose of promoting cooperation in the administration of the country. In nominating persons to join in the cabinet, the party members left it to the party leader to decide. The prime minister has made a fair judgment on the appointments of the new cabinet members. Deputy Prime Minister General Athit Kamlang-ek made these remarks during a news interview.

[Begin recording] [Athit] The prime minister freely considered the qualifications and ability of each person to match the post and responsibility in each ministry. He decided it by himself. I did not have any part in it.

[Reporter] Some people say that the appointment of Mr. Suwat Lipataphanlop as a new deputy communications minister may lead to unfair decisions, because Suwat himself has operated a construction company, which also deals with the Communications Ministry. What would you say?

[Athit] Judging from his business knowledge and ability, he has expertise in the field of communications. He will have to make a proper rearrangement of his works and activities. However, it is the affairs of the company and not his own. According to the rules and regulations of the company, he will have to completely withdraw himself from all the works of the company. Whether the company will be awarded any work contract will depend on the decision of the respective committee which has to be fair. Suwat himself will have to maintain justice on this matter, or else he will be blamed. As long as he has an opportunity to work for the country in his new capacity, he will have to be very careful in handling various issues in a way that is fair for all.

[Reporter] Have any party members had reacted against including Suwat in the cabinet as he is a new member of Parliament]?

[Athit] For efficiency in the administration of the country, I think we must have persons who are both capable and really willing to work. We would not select senior persons only. We must select the qualified and determined persons. Anyway, names of the old hands were also proposed for consideration in the cabinet shakeup, and it was the prime minister who had the final say. In fact, there are not many senior members in our party. It is just impossible to make them all members of the cabinet, isn't it? I have tried my best to make it fair for all. [end recording]

Sanan Gives Interview

BK2908125190 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 28 Aug 90

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Sanan Khachonprasat said he is confident that the new agriculture minister will be able to carry out efficiently the works of the Agriculture Ministry. Sanan gave a news interview at the Agriculture Ministry today:

[Begin recording in progress] [Sanan] ... Well, I feel good, because I am now in a higher post in the cabinet. I told the prime minister that over the past two years I had been working hard as agriculture minister, still I faced many accusations and attacks. I told the prime minister that I would be most satisfied if I could be relieved from the post. Therefore, I am happy with this cabinet reshuffle.

[Reporter] What would you like to say to or advise the new agriculture minister?

[Sanan] Well, I think I shouldn't give any advice to former Deputy Prime Minister Chuan Likphai, as he knows very well about the policy of the Agriculture Ministry. I implemented various policies—on forestry, land reform, the agricultural council, and the forest park bill. As he once before headed the Agriculture Ministry, the minister should feel at home again. [end recording]

Three Nigerians With 4.3 Kg Heroin Arrested

BK3008021790 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Aug 90 p A6

[Text] Customs officials yesterday arrested three Nigerian men at Don Muang Airport for allegedly trying to smuggle heroin out of the country. The officials also seized from the suspects 10 bags of heroin weighing a total of 4.3 kilogrammes found wrapped in fabric in their luggage.

The suspects, identified as Samu Sidden Olamilekan Rotinwa, 46, Man Hammed Hadiq Raki, 43 and Franklin Ricketts, 31, were arrested on charges of possessing narcotics with intent to sell as they were about to board a Singapore Airlines flight to Singapore yesterday morning. The heroin they tried to take out of the country was estimated to be worth about Bt900,000 on the domestic market.

—A border patrol policeman was injured in a gun battle with guards at a heroin refinery that was raided in Muang district of Chiang Rai province yesterday. Policemen from Zone 3 headquarters surrounded the refinery, located near Huai Chuchi village in Tambon Huai Chomphu, at about 11.30 am and exchanged fired with refinery guards, police reported. After a brief gunfight, the guards fled and police confiscated the heroin and 22 pieces of equipment.

Vietnam

UN Cambodia Plan Said Welcomed, Not Endorsed

BK3008120690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1129 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Hanoi, Aug 30 (AFP)—Vietnam said Thursday that it welcomed efforts by the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council to resolve the Cambodian problem just two days after the big five agreed on a peace blueprint. But Hanoi did not specifically state it approved of the peace plan agreed on in New York on Tuesday by Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States.

"Vietnam welcomes the efforts taken by the big five countries aimed at resolving the Cambodian problem," a Foreign Ministry official said. "A fair, rational and global political solution to the Cambodian problem must be established in the framework of the Paris international conference on Cambodia and above all on the basis of respect for the Cambodian people's right of self determination," the official added.

A fuller statement is likely to be issued in the next day or two.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, in a reference to documents adopted by the big five in July, said in a press interview last week that solutions bearing on the sovereignty of Cambodia should not be imposed. He did not elaborate but observers believed he was referring to military and internal political aspects.

The big five plan calls for an interim United Nations administration of Cambodia—entailing a major military and civilian contingent—pending general elections to be organised by the world body.

Phnom Penh has welcomed the plan but demanded guarantees, including U.N. impartiality and the disarmament of the communist Khmer Rouge resistance faction.

Vietnam and the United States are due to begin a second round of bilateral talks on Cambodia in New York on Friday.

Hanoi Cites Li Peng Statement on Normalization

BK3008081490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] The Chinese News Agency, XINHUA, on 28 August quoted Chinese Premier Li Peng as saying at a conference of the Chinese National Assembly's standing committee that China is ready to discuss the normalization of relations with Vietnam once a just and rational solution to the Cambodian issue has been achieved.

Army Journal Discusses 'Eastern Sea Issue'

BK2508142590 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Jun 90 pp 60-66

[Article by Professor Tran Dinh Gian of Social Sciences Committee: "The Geographical and Political Aspects of the Eastern Sea—Problems and Prospects"]

[Text] The nearer we are approaching the threshold of the twenty-first century, the seas and oceans—where lay huge deposits of resources, strategic raw materials, food and food products essential to mankind in the future—have become more of a bone of contention among forces that want to build up their strengths in oceans with their long-range schemes.

The Eastern Sea lying between the Pacific and Indian Oceans occupies a strategic point on the most important traffic route of the world and links Western Europe and the Central and Near East with the Far East and Northwestern Pacific. Surrounding this sea zone are countries—that have been famous since the very 15th century for their resources, raw materials, foodstuffs and spices—which make the zone even more vital and more of a bone of contention around the issues of territorial and water boundaries and sovereignty over islands and archipelagoes inside it. Particularly, of late has arisen the issue of major mineral oil reserves on the Sunda continent (Footnote 1) (Sunda: Ancient continent located south of Indochina and Malaysia Peninsulas, Kalimantan, Sumatra and Java Islands, and the entire continental shelf in the middle of the aforementioned territories) the boundaries of which cover most of the southern part of the Eastern Sea continental shelf. This makes the islands and coral reefs in the Eastern Sea particularly attractive. Of course, there has been dispute among regional countries. Nevertheless, contradiction here mainly lies between the regional countries and the outside force (Footnote 2) (See China's 1978 administrative map showing the aggression scheme of the People's Republic of China toward the entire Eastern Sea "Nanhai Zhu Dao"—Nanhai archipelagoes) coming from East Asia along the path of expanding "the strategic border" to the south and which mainly revolves around Vietnam's two archipelagoes of Hoang Sa [Paracels] and Truong Sa [Spratlys]. What are specifically the problems arising from these two archipelagoes? We should look back at the main events, cross check the viewpoints of both sides (and all parties involved if necesary) on the basis of specific data and from the angle of view of a joint scientific sector, and, at the same time we should consider them in accordance with the highest standards of historical truth and international law. Then, it is also necessary to consider the future prospect in the region when on the mainland, the "Cambodian issue" has been settled and Southeast Asia has become a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality, and free of nuclear and chemical weapons. In what direction will the geopolitical issue of the Eastern Sea develop then?

I. A look at the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagoes issue

So far we have collected more than 150 official publications on the Eastern Sea in seven languages compiling from documents of related countries which include whitebooks, diplomatic notes, statements, and reports on the history, geography, geology, and law of the sea related to the region. We also have research documents from 1988-89, including the atlas (Footnote 1) (A map book carrying general geographical information of a nation or a region) about Vietnam and the most recent atlas on the political geography of the Eastern Sea.

1. Geographical data of the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagoes

On the map of the Eastern Sea in the Emperor Hong Duc era (drawn in the 15th century), or the one drawn by navigator Henry Cook Valangren in 1595, the Hoang Sa Archipelago is situated at the 15.45-17.15 degrees north latitude and 111-113 degrees longitude. Its continental shelf is 1,000-meter deep offshore the central costal region of Vietnam (parallel to the port of Danang). The archipelago is composed of many islands and reefs of different sizes and are situated at 16B degrees north latitude. Noteworthy is that these islands, though situated far away from the shore, are looked similar in shape to sandbanks at the Thu Bon River's mouth of Vietnam. With a total of 30 islands and coral reefs, the Hoang Sa Archipelago blocks the outlet of the Gulf of Tonkin, about 120 nautical miles from the Re Islet (Vietnam), or 150 nautical miles from the Hainan Island (China's southernmost territory). With this geographical location, Hoang Sa, on the one hand, is a very important outpost for stopping the enemy's invasion from the Eastern Sea to the delta coastal area of Bac Bo and the northern region of central Vietnam. On the other hand, the enemy can easily use the archipelago as a springboard to blockade the Gulf of Tonkin and to divide Vietnam into two parts (at the central region) as in the Vietnam war waged by U.S. imperialism.

The Truong Sa Archipelago is situated at wider geographical coordinates from 7-12 degrees north latitude and from 110-117 degrees longitude (according to G. Mastons' 1986 document). The archipelago is composed of almost 100 islands, reefs, and sandbanks. Its continental shelf is 1,000-meter deep similar to that of the Hoang Sa Archipelago but is much more wider (about 12 times). There are also sea ditches as deep as 2,000 meters in between these islands and reefs thus dividing them into different groups. For example, the group of Co Rong reefs in the east and the group islands of northeast Cay, Thitu, Sand Cay, and Sinh Ton in the west. Between the Truong Sa Archipelago and the Palawan Island (the Philippines), the Kalimantan Island (Malaysia), and Brunei is a 2,000-meter deep sea ditch. To the north and northeast of the Truong Sa Archipelago is the Eastern Sea's deep basin, some sections are as deep as 5,500 meters lying in a diagonal position to mainland China, Taiwan, and the Philippines. The gap between Truong Sa Archipelago and Vietnam is 210 nautical miles, while between it and China is 530 nautical miles, and between it and Taiwan is more than 960 nautical miles.

Thus, geographically (according to Geographer Marcel Beauvoir, 1971), "the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagoes rest on a string of continental shelves at different depths. These shelves, a tail of the Truong Son Range, enclose the Hoang Sa Archipelago and extend southward as far as the Truong Sa Archipelago and other adjacent islands and coral reefs. In its western part, the Eastern Sea has a depth of less than 1,400 meters, but in the eastern part the islands are surrounded by abysses 5,000 meters or more deep."

Marcel Beauvoir's conclusions are consistent with the new findings about the earth's structure and in modern geomorphology. According to Beauvoir, a portion of the Austroindian continent was sucked once toward the Himalayas while the land mass west of the Pacific was pulled toward East Asia, creating a vertical movement that pushed the Himalayas and its tail, the Truong Son Range, upward. As a result of this gigantic formative movement, the eastern slope of the Truong Son Range as well as the eastern part of Asia steeply inclined toward the Pacific and the Eastern Sea, quickly accelerating the erosion process on the continental surface while speeding up the formation of offshore alluvials. The islands and archipelagoes located on the continental shelf of East Asia as well as on the sloping rim of continental Asia (such as Vietnam's Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagoes) were also affected by that vertical movement. The formation process of the islands and coral reefs in the Eastern Sea was also quickened with the alluvium disgorged by the rivers from the eastern shore of the Indochinese Peninsula.

2. Regarding Historical Facts and International Law

The above-cited geographical and geomorphological facts are a basis provided by nature. In this context, the question of determining sovereignty must also be based on internationally accepted historical facts and international laws. The United States cited proximity as proof of sovereignty in the dispute over Las Palmas Island, a plea that was rejected by the International Court at The Hague. Another example took place in 1978, when Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos issued a decree annexing an entire area of the Truong Sa Archipelago extending as far as 112 degrees east longitude, outside the limits of the Philippine territorial waters as determined by various international treaties. For this reason, analyzing and comparing the cases of the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagoes with other cases in accordance with the history of their occupation as well as the organized exercise of national sovereignty by the disputants, and in conformity with recognized international law, is necessary to decide which side is right.

To clearly prove sovereignty over its islands and archipelagoes in the Eastern Sea through different periods of its independence, Vietnam has conducted surveys and mapping, and has organized the management of the exploitation of resources and products in the area. However, documents dating back to the 15th century and earlier had been taken back to Kim Lang and burned during the time of the Ming invasion of Vietnam. Only a few documents remain, such as Du Dia Chi [Geography] written by Nguyen Trai in the 15th century, and Thien Nam Tu Chi Lo Do Thu [Atlas of the Southern Country] by Do Ba in the 17th century. But the most descriptive and comprehensive one was Phu Bien Tap Luc [Miscellaneous Records on the Pacification of the Frontiers] compiled by Le Quy Don in 1776. Le Quy Don clearly pointed out that "beyond the Re Islet lies Dai Truong Sa; the Nguyen Dynasty organized the Hoang Sa Detachment to exploit resources and marine products.... Later on, it set up the Bac Hai Detachment (under the management of the Hoang Sa Detachment) to exploit Van Ly Truong Sa." Next came other geographical treatises such as Nhat Thong Dia Du Chi [Unified Treatise of Geography] by Le Quang Dinh, Gia Dinh Thong Chi [Monograph of Gia Dinh] by Trinh Hoai Duc, Dai Nam Nhat Thong Chi [Monograph of Unified Dai Nam] and Hoang Viet Dia Du Chi [Geography of the Viet Kingdom] portion in Lich Trieu Hien Chuong Loai Chi (Chronicle of Dynasties] by Phan Huy Chu. Spanning an entire century (between the 18th and 19th centuries), all these works mentioned the exercise of Vietnamese sovereignty on these two archipelagoes.

Under French-dominated Vietnam, the Indochinese governor on behalf of the Vietnamese emperor, made the Hoang Sa archipelago an administrative unit and incorporated it into Thua Thien Province (15 June 1932). Then, two other representative administrative units were established to administer this archipelago. In 1933, on behalf of the Vietnamese Kingdom, France established its sovereignty over the Truong Sa archipelago and announced it to all countries (28 September 1933).

At the San Franciso conference (1951), the delegation head of the Republic of Vietnam issued a statement confirming Vietnamese sovereignty over the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes after Japan returned all the territories it occupied in World War II (1939-1945). None of the delegates from the 51 countries at the conference objected to Vietnam's confirmation of its sovereignty. The 1954 Geneva agreement on Indochina recognized Vietnam's sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity. (This also includes Chinese recognition). Without having to go into details, it can be concluded that Vietnam has peacefully and effectively occupied the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes without interruption for centuries, has organized its administration clearly and has established its national sovereignty there with information duly published in the national press and announced at international conferences.

The arguments advanced by China are very vague. It holds that Chinese historical documents on these archipelagoes (Hoang Sa and Truong Sa) date back to the Sung dynasty and that monetary coins of Emperor (Ying Lian) of the Ming dynasty were found in a row of corals there! Another argument that has been repeated several times is that in 1907, many high-ranking officers were sent by the Chinese Government to survey these two archipelagoes and that civilians were sent there to clear virgin land. However, such actions were belated and illegal because land ownership was already established (at least in the 17th century as presented above). By the way, why did China not mention the "survey" made from 1405 to 1421 by Admiral Trinh Hoa who together with 30,000 soldiers and 300 warships (the highest number) sailed seven times to Nanhai and as far as the Gulf area in the Indian ocean and even to East Africa. According to such an argument, the entire immense ocean and continent mentioned above should also come under Chinese sovereignty!

Unable to advance accurate arguments, China has resorted to the mapping technique. It holds that the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes are islands and reefs close to Vietnam's central coast and that in the 1820's, maps published by the West showed that islands close to Vietnam's central coast had been moved up to the northeast. This is a mistake that Vietnam took advantage of to justify its sovereignty! However, as stated above, the geographical coordinates of Hoang Sa and Truong Sa are undeniable facts. Finally in 1974 China showed its true face. Following the "Shanghai communique" concluded with the United States, China dispatched strong naval and air forces to rudely invade Hoang Sa and Truong Sa and said "the South Vietnam administration conducted armed provocations against China!" How can one believe such a statement? The world public did not have to wait long for a clarification: In 1982, the new CHINA NEWS AGENCY [XINHUA] on 25 June revealed that a large port had been established at Hoang Sa. According to J.M. Van Dike and D.L. Bennet of the "Peace Institute" of the University of Hawaii "there have been canals, dikes, meteorological stations and multi-story buildings on many islands in the Hoang Sa group, reflecting China's long-term scheme to stay there." (Footnote 2) (Article "Islands and the Determination of Oceanic Space in South China Sea" 19 January 1989). Moreover, to assert its sovereignty over the air, on 23 June 1979, during its offensive against Vietnam's entire northern border, China banned all unauthorized flights over the four dangerous zones near Hainan Island. On 10 June 1988, it proclaimed control of the air space over Hoang Sa and Truong Sa.

China's above-mentioned arguments are void because in terms of international law, no country has the right to unilaterally declare that a certain territory is unoccupied (res nullus) or abandoned (res derelecta) if that territory has already been subjected to another country's sovereignty. Even the discovery of a new land can only serve as a starting point for establishing a country's sovereignty over that land. In order to claim sovereignty over a territory, a country must have peacefully occupied that territory for a definite period of time and organized an adequate state machinery to administer it. Unfortunately, China's case has nothing to do with this fact! Because China established sovereignty over Vietnam's Hoang Sa Archipelago (1974) and the six coral reefs of Vietnam's Truong Sa Archipelago (1988) was achieved in wartime (through the use of force), its sovereignty is completely void of legality.

Why has China continued to act at variance with the international law? In a book about the military exploits during the period of ten thousand years B.C., there was a chart with five rectangular frames revolving around China's imperial capital, which was square in shape 500 ly wide on each side (Footnote 4) (Ly: ancient unit of measurements based on the range of a man's sight and is equivalent to about 1 kilometer). The imperial capital forms the center. Next come the emperor's land, the satellite countries' land, the border areas that have already been pacified, the territories owned by tamed barbarians, and last of all, the land inhabited by untamed barbarians. In an official map published in 1971, China clearly defined the territorial and water boundaries of these areas and claimed that the latter had been seized by other countries between 1840-1919. They include Sinkiang, the Soviet Union's Far East region, the territories sandwiched between India and China, Burma, the Andaman Sea in the Indian Ocean, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the three Indochinese countries, a major part of the Eastern Sea area, Japan's Shikoku Archipelago, North and South Korea, and a group of islands between the Philippines and Indonesia's Kalimantan. Thus, although China has not limited its land expansion plan to a single direction, the southbound march has always constituted the main objective, as evidenced by the fact during the very early stage of development, various primitive tribes have gradually moved from the Huang Ho River's mouth in Lower China to the Central Plain and then to the land of One Hundred Yueh. In 1987, China's paper "Liberation Army" (3 April 1987) brought forward a new concept to demonstrate the fact that "strategic boundaries" can play a decisive role in securing space for the existence of Chinese of different nationalities. This is a copy of the concept introduced by German geographers F. Ratgien and K. Hauhopen, who were Hitler's advisors. The new concept propagates the idea of moving China's gateway southward for 2,000 kilometers or farther (in Singapore) to create ampler space for China's control over the seas. Meanwhile, China's weekly "Science and Technology" (16 August 1989 issue) quoted an ancient Roman law as saying that "even if a country uses illegal means to occupy another country's territory, this occupation will eventually become legal provided that business has been carried out in that territory for a long period of time (approximately 50 years)." The article also stressed that "if China fails to retake the Nansha Archipelago within 15-20 years, then that group of islands will be lost forever. The loss of the Nansha Archipelago will reduce the in-depth sea defense range to more than 1,000 kilometers." In conclusion, the article said: "Now is the last chance for us to compete in the struggle for control over the seas." As noted by J.M. Vandaico and D.L. Benmet (in the referent article), this is a deliberate use of ambiguous terminology to refer to sovereignty on the one hand and hegemony on the other. Meanwhile, since they were established on Asian norms, the relations between the emperors and the satellite states were more or less for form's sake only and had nothing to do with territorial boundaries.

II. Prospects for Resolving the Eastern Sea Issue

It is the importance of the Eastern Sea, of which the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagoes are an integral part, with its special potential in terms of natural resources, raw materials, food, and special products (not to mention strategic calculations), that has turned the region into a bone of contention between countries of conflicting interests.

To resolve this tense situation in the Eastern Sea, the best solution can only be through peaceful means. All the disputants, especially Vietnam and China, should respect the key principle that any settlement must be based on historical facts, international law, and universally accepted rules and regulations. China should not cite the appellation that "the Eastern Sea is the South China Sea"—a geographical name concocted by traders who once frequently traveled through Southeast Asia without a good knowledge of the countries in and outside the region—as an excuse to expand its land and water boundaries. Nor should it hold the erroneous belief that the Pacific is China's ocean just because a world map drawn by a German geographer and printed in 1930 called it Oceanus Sinonsis (Footnote 5) (Oceanus Sinonsis: Chinese Ocean).

Another question is, when "the Cambodian issue" on the mainland has been peacefully resolved, the disputes on the sea between countries in the region should also be settled through dialogue. Particularly, in the relations between Vietnam and continental China there are closely related issues concerning both sides' future development on a world scale and of mutual benefit which should also be resolved according to the common trend, that is, through dialogue and peaceful means.

In the Chinese Economic Atlas, Geographer P. Genten (Sphyard Reclay Publishing House, 1987) highlighted the relatively underdeveloped industrial sector of Yunnan, Guangxi, and even Sichuan provinces. Is it not true that one of the main reasons for this state of China's development is that the waterways and land routes running through Vietnam's Red River valley to the outside world still remain unused? If bilateral relations are normalized on the basis of recognition of Vietnam's sovereignty and territorial integrity as agreed at the 1954 Geneva Conference on Indochina, China will stand to benefit first. How quickly and effectively China will be able to quickly modernize its resources-rich southwestern region! It is true that the Yunnan-Haiphong railway, if reopened, can reach as far as Chengdu, Lanzhou, and Urumqi, linking the entire western and southwestern regions of China with Vietnam, Southeast Asia, and Southwest Pacific. That is not to mention the Mekong River, which can be used to travel from Vietnam up north, along the Jinsha Jiang River, thus opening up very bright prospects for the entire southernmost region of Yunnan. If the Chinese strategists look at the whole situation with goodwill and sincerity, they will see that resolving the Eastern Sea and Hoang Sa and Truong Sa issues through peaceful means and dialogue is in conformity with the great interests of all continental socialist China, both in the near and distant future. Historical experiences of nations and countries of the world have shown that any nation and state that nurture too great ambitions and stretch out their aggressive and expansionist hands too far will end up harming their own basic and legitimate interests.

Ninth CPV Central Committee Plenum Resolution

BK2908143290 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 29 Aug 90

["Resolution of the Ninth Plenum of the Sixth Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam on the Draft Program for Socialist Construction in the Transitional Period and the Draft Strategy for Socioeconomic Development Until the Year 2000"]

[Text] 1. The Ninth Plenum of the Sixth Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], held from 16 to 28 August 1990, discussed the Draft Program for Socialist Construction in the Transitional Period and the Draft Strategy for Socioeconomic Development Until the Year 2000. The party Central Committee Plenum made many important suggestions to these two drafts.

2. The Ninth Plenum of the Sixth CPV Central Committee entrusted the party Central Committee Political Bureau, the Program Drafting Subcommittee, and the Socioeconomic Strategy Drafting Subcommittee with the task of perfecting the two drafts on the basis of the party Central Committee's suggestions.

3. The party Central Committee entrusted the party Central Committee Political Bureau with the task of deciding on the time for and method of publicizing these two documents to solicit suggestions from the party and the people before submitting them to the Seventh National Party Congress.

Hanoi, 28 August 1990
The Ninth Plenum of the Sixth CPV Central Committee.

Plenum Issues Communique

BK2908152090 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Communique on the Ninth Plenum of the Sixth Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam; date not given]

[Text] The Ninth Plenum of the Sixth Party Central Committee was held in Hanoi from 16 to 28 August 1990. Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh made opening and closing statements.

The plenum discussed the Draft Program for Socialist Construction in the Transitional Period, the Draft Strategy for Socioeconomic Development Until the Year 2000, and the main orientation of the 1991-1995 five-year plan, and some urgent socioeconomic problems.

1. Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, head of the Program Drafting Subcommittee, reported to the plenum on the Draft Program and expressed views on some basic issues regarding the contents of the program.

From early 1987 to mid-1990, the subcommittee worked out eight drafts of the program. During that period, the Political Bureau held several discussions and made suggestions to the drafts. Many seminars were held to exchange views on some subjects raised in the drafts. The eighth draft was sent to the comrades members of the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Party Central Committees; the central departments and branches; provincial, city, and special zone party committees; organs for theoretical research; and many scientists for discussions and suggestions. The subcommittee then revised the draft again twice and submitted the 10th draft to the party Central Committee Plenum.

Comrade Do Muoi, head of the Socioeconomic Strategy Drafting Subcommittee, reported to the party Central Committee Plenum on the Draft Strategy for Socioeconomic Development Until the Year 2000 and the Main Orientation of the 1991-1995 five-year plan.

Over the past several months, the subcommittee has organized numerous national seminars in different regions to consult with the comrades leaders of various departments and branches at the central level and in the provinces and cities, veteran revolutionaries, economic managers, and many typical scientists throughout the country on the contents of our country's strategy for socioeconomic development until the year 2000.

The party Central Committee has held lively discussions and debates, contributing many important suggestions of high quality concerning both practice and theory in order to revise and supplement those two drafts. The party Central Committee has entrusted the Political Bureau, the Program Drafting Subcommittee, and the Socioeconomic Strategy Drafting Subcommittee with the task of, basing themselves on the suggestions of the party Central Committee, revising the two drafts and deciding on the time for and method of publicizing these two documents to solicit suggestions from the party and the people. On this basis, they should further revise the drafts before submitting them to the Seventh National Party Congress.

2. Concerning some urgent socioeconomic problems.

The Ninth Plenum of the Party Central Committee unanimously held that since early 1990, the world situation has developed complicatedly and has had a comprehensive impact on our country. Thanks to their great efforts, our entire party and people have firmly maintained political security and have continued to develop the successes scored in 1989 and to achieve positive results in a number of socioeconomic fields.

The grain output of the fifth-month spring and summer-fall crops is approximately the same as that of the corresponding period in 1989, thus basically meeting the grain requirements for the entire country and for rice export demand. Industrial production has been reorganized. Some key centrally-run industrial sectors specializing in the production of electricity, gas and oil, cement, paper, processed agricultural products, and so forth have developed fairly well. A number of state enterprises have operated profitably. The communications and transportation sector has done a better job in meeting the requirements of people's movement and goods circulation. The communications and information system has been improved a step further. More favorable conditions have been created to facilitate business activities. The export index of the first seven months of 1990 has increased fairly well compared to the same period last year. However, in the recent months, the socioeconomic situation has faced complicated developments and new difficulties. The Party Central Committee Plenum clearly pointed out that that socioeconomic situation was caused by objective and subjective reasons.

The objective reasons are as follows: There has been a great imbalance in the economy. The nation has not yet overcome inflation and a crisis. As far as the process of shifting to the market-oriented economy is concerned, there are many new things to learn in terms of management of state affairs and business operations. Since we do not have much experience in this field, we do not know how to handle things. Some of the changes in the world situation have developed to our disadvantage.

The subjective reasons are as follows: Many echelons and sectors have displayed poor management in fertilizer and grain supply, rice export control, financial management, tax collection, export-import control, anti-smuggling, management of banking and credit services, as well as national reserves, law enforcement, and so forth. Some provisions of the policies governing the mobilization of capital and credit funds are still inappropriate and unable to meet the requirements of production and business operations. The management mechanism is still cumbersome, bureaucratic, and inefficient. Management cadres are not competent enough to meet the requirements. There have been serious indications of indiscipline and disrespect for the law, particularly in the domains of planning, financial and monetary affairs, credit services, pricing, import-export, and the market. The impact of departmentalism and individualism remains quite heavy. There have been cases of violations against party and state policies and resolutions just because people have tried to protect their own interests or the interests of their units and localities. No prompt efforts have been made to get rid of the evils of corruption, bribery, and extravagant spending. No stern action has been taken against violations.

The party Central Committee Plenum stressed that urgent and effective measures must be adopted to resolve the above-mentioned socioeconomic issues in order to continue to improve the socioeconomic situation, firmly maintain political and social stability, create favorable conditions for fulfilling the 1991-1995 5-year plan, and satisfactorily prepare for the Seventh Party Congress.

The guiding thought for resolving the urgent socioeconomic problems is to steadfastly implement the policy of renovating the economic management mechanism as laid down by the Sixth Party Congress resolution, take all economic activities onto the path of profit-and-loss accounting along the line of socialism, and strive to raise efficiency in conformity with the conditions of a regulated market economy and the new demands of foreign economic relations.

Let the entire party and people uphold the spirit of independence, self-mastery, and self-reliance along with broadening international relations; cultivate the will to make the people rich and the country strong; bring into play intelligence and creativity; exploit as best they can all existing and potential capabilities; and take the initiative in devising different plans to suit the new situation. Efforts must be made to create many jobs for workers. All people must work with high efficiency and good results.

All levels, sectors, organs, and units, and all citizens must uphold the sense of economization in national construction and oppose extravagance and wastefulness. Practicing thrift is a policy of strategic significance in the cause of socialist construction. Therefore, there must be procedures and laws to ensure its implementation. Unity of thoughts and action must be achieved in the entire party and people. The sense of organization and discipline must be upheld, rules and regulations firmly maintained, and the law respected in socioeconomic activities. Individuals and units guilty of criminal actions must be severely and judiciously dealt with.

The socioeconomic situation is facing some new favorable conditions, but there still remain many acute difficulties which, if not promptly overcome, will not only cause bad consequences in 1991, but also adversely affect the implementation of the 1991-1995 5-year plan and the long-term strategy for socioeconomic development. Among the urgent measures, suppressing the spreading of smuggled goods along with stepping up production and protecting locally-made goods, making rational use of the sources of foreign currency, revamping financial and monetary management, and combating corruption are tasks of burning topicality and decisive significance that must be carried out at once and in a satisfactory manner.

The party Central Committee stressed the sense of responsibility and important role of all the comrade members of the Central Committee at various levels and in various sectors, and of the Council of Ministers in exercising guidance and management in accordance with these conclusions of the party Central Committee Plenum.

The party Central Committee urged all cadres and party members, all party committee and administrative echelons, and all departments, sectors, and mass organizations to seriously organize implementation of the conclusions of the Ninth Plenum of the party Central Committee regarding some urgent socioeconomic issues; firmly maintain discipline, rules, and regulations; and satisfactorily implement the party and state's positions and policies.

The Ninth Plenum of the Sixth Party Central Committee is confident that, with unity and singlemindedness and a high sense of responsibility toward the country, the entire party and people will successfully resolve the urgent socioeconomic issues, thus ensuring the continuous development and success of the cause of renovation.

Nguyen Van Linh Fetes Revolutionaries 26 Aug

BK2808135190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Report on 26 August Hanoi get-together of ex-political prisoners marking the 45th anniversary of the August Revolution and the 2 September National Day]

[Summary] To "celebrate the 45th anniversary of the August Revolution and the 2 September National Day, an emotional get-together was held yesterday, 26 August, at the Vietnam-Soviet Friendship Cultural Center in

Hanoi, with the participation of over 100 out of 166 comrades who were once political prisoners banished by the imperialists to Con Dao during various periods of time and who are now working or retired in Hanoi."

The revolutionary fighters of long ago are now white-haired. Many of them have difficulty walking and are 70-80 years old, such as elders Hoang Quoc Viet, Le Van Luong, Tran Cung, and others.

"As a prisoner also banished to Con Dao, Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh was present at this memorable get-together."

On behalf of the participants, Elder Hoang Quoc Viet opened the get-together with a statement. He said:

[Begin Hoang Quoc Viet recording] Dear comrades: Remembering those dark days in the imperialist jails, we will never forget the sacrifices and hardships experienced by our comrades and compatriots over one half century. We are very proud of having devoted our entire youth to revolutionary activities and having contributed to the successful August revolution which resulted in the downfall of colonialism and feudalism. To build a bountiful and happy life for the people as dreamed by Uncle Ho, our party and people must unite to struggle to overcome all difficulties and harships. We believe in the path chosen by Uncle Ho. [end recording]

Elder Hoang Quoc Viet then invited Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh to speak.

[Begin Nguyen Van Linh recording] Dear comrades: Today I come to see you to share your joy and chat with you not in the capacity of a general secretary but as one of your former fellow prisoners. I was first imprisoned in Con Dao when I was 16. Among you here there are people who were then and still are now my elders and superiors. Today I come to see these senior comrades. There can be comrades belonging to the younger generation. There are comrades who are older than me, as old as I am, or a little bit younger than I am. Our comradeship is close and lasting for we once experienced many hard years in imperialist jails. Today we have a very good chance to meet one another here, at a time when our entire people are endeavoring to build socialism and renovate the way to develop socialism in accordance with the thoughts of Marxism and Engels, as well as other creative thoughts of Uncle Ho and his ethical qualities. This is a source of pride for us indeed. [end recording]

"The comrade then recalled his memories of those years when he and other revolutionary fighters languished in imperialist jails. They firmly maintained their moral integrity as communists in spite of being brutally tortured by the enemy. Many comrades died heroically in jails. It was in this difficult time of the revolution that many effective forms of and initiatives for struggle emerged, the developers of which were peasants, workers, youths, and intellectuals, and it was precisely due to these initiatives of the masses that various revolutionary resistance movements took shape, bringing the revolutionary cause to total victory.

"The comrade general secretary said we and our senior revolutionaries then all believed that the revolution would certainly be successful. When the August Revolution was successfully concluded, I was still in Con Dao. The compatriots sent boats to pick me up and brought me back to the mainland where we, the political prisoners, received an emotional welcome. We were stunned as if we were in a dream and were all the more aware of Uncle Ho's remarks that although the party holds the leadership, the revolutionary cause belongs to the masses, and the strength of the revolution rests with the masses. Therefore, we were all the more confident that the revolution would be crowned with victory.

"The comrade then reviewed major successes of our country's revolution as well as a number of mistakes committed by the party as already publicly criticized at the sixth party congress. The comrade emphatically pointed out socioeconomic successes scored over the past four years since the sixth party congress, the most prominent being agricultural production, the switch to a market economic system, the broadening and development of various economic components and export-import activities, etc.

"The comrade general secretary also inquired about and sympathized with difficulties now confronting retired cadres, soldiers, students, and so forth. He said: These difficulties are due to the fact that our production has yet to meet demands and that our financial sector is still beset with numerous difficulties. Even worse, the state of tax evasion and tax fraud in production and trade is thriving. Private enterpreneurs are resorting to tax evasion or tax fraud. Many establishments are hiding themselves under the signboard of being state-owned to engage in lucrative trade and evade taxes. Good imports have been rampant and this has created more difficulties for us. The comrade specifically analyzed the nonsense of our continued importation of many kinds of goods that can be produced locally and are not in short supply, and the quality of which is not inferior to foreign goods—for example, toothpicks and pickled onions. We have plenty of coconuts, but we still import copra from Thailand. The same is true of beers and cigarettes of all sorts."

"The comrade general secretary also mentioned some other difficult problems, such as the serious state of corruption among a number of degraded and deviant cadres. He emphatically said that he would like to cite these examples for the people to know that over the past four years we have effected changes for the better in many aspects, but there are still many areas that are still not good enough. To remind the revolutionaries about the urgent problems now facing the country, the comrade general secretary called on his former fellow prisoners to maintain and develop the revolutionary tradition of the

Con Dao political prisoners. The comrade recited a poem inscribed on the ceremonial dais of this get-together as follows:

"In jail we were known for our perseverance and unsubmissiveness.

"In life, we should uphold our propriety and faithfulness."

"Every one expressed his approval and warmly hailed this poem. Finally, also with the sentiments of a former fellow fighter and fellow prisoner of Con Dao, the comrade general secretary said":

[Begin Nguyen Van Linh recording] Now you are old, already at retirement age. As for me, I will soon retire as you, comrades, did. Once retired a person will no longer hold any positions in the party or in the administrative apparatus. But a communist will never retire until his death. Do you, comrades, agree? How can a communist retire? A communist must do revolutionary work until his death, except when he is seriously ill. If his illness is not serious enough, he must, as his health and capability permit, continue to try by one way or another to do revolutionary work. For us it is all right because we are veteran revolutionaries, but what about our children and grandchildren who are still working and possibly holding high positions in the party or the administration, and who have not experienced any hardships like us? We must educate the youths. At present they must be taught to use our home-made goods even though the quality of these goods is a little bit poorer and the prices a little bit higher than those of imported goods. Foreign goods are sold cheaper because of their tax evasion.

There are also the ills of negativism and haughtiness toward the people. Although we have already retired but our children are still working or, in some cases, holding high positions within the party or the administrative apparatus, we must advise them against things like this: Some people among us once mingled themselves with the masses when the administration was not established. But following the setting up of the administration they have become haughty to the people and alienated themselves from the people. People assigned to an economic job tend to develop the bad practices of embezzling public funds or committing negativism under many forms. While the people are in a miserable situation, these cadres and state employees live lavishly. We must advise our children against negativism and the ills of bureaucracy and vainglory. They must live up to communist integrity and be good citizens in accordance with the examples, ethics, and manners of Uncle Ho. We must pass on our revolutionary quality to our children. Our revolutionary quality is the most valuable asset, and we should not squander it by bringing it along with us when we die. Instead, we must pass on our revolutionary nature and assets to the younger generation. Is this right? Do you comrades agree? What if we fail to pass on this tradition and keep it for ourselves, until there is a function like this to talk about it? Such a practice is tantamount to a man holding his gold in his pocket and carrying it along with him when he dies. How wasteful! We should leave this gold, this shining revolutionary quality for our children. [end recording]

Also yesterday, Comrade General Secretary General Nguyen Van Linh went to see the 16th Vietnamese artistic photo exhibition held by the Vietnamese Photographic Artists' Association in Hanoi to mark the 45th anniversary of the August Revolution and the 2 September National Day. The comrade general secretary was shown around by Comrade Phan Bao, deputy secretary of the association and other cadres of the association.

"In his conversation with the cadres of the Vietnam Photographic Artists Association at the exhibition, the comrade general secretary commended the association for its efforts, saying: This exhibition shows a new, fine step of development in our country's photographic sector and that our photographic artists have been able to show the beautiful character of the Vietnamese country and its people. The comrade urged the photographic artists to try to associate themselves more closely with the daily life of the laboring people so they can create even more beautiful photographic works. He asked the photographic artists' association to seek to widely disseminate aesthetic pictures for viewing by the people of all strata, thus making everyone further love the Vietnamese country and its people.

"After hearing Comrade Phan Bao report on a number of difficulties now facing photographic artists, the comrade general secretary expressed his concern over the difficult life of the photographic artists and hoped that the association leadership will find ways to improve this situation and create better working conditions for its artists so they can work better.

"The comrade general secretary wrote the following words on the souvenir book: This is the first time I have viewed a photo exhibition of a time of peaceful national construction. After viewing nearly 200 photos, I am moved by their beauty, both their aesthetic and meaningful aspects. Many photos underscore the scenic beauty as well as the beauty of Vietnamese people. In particular, many photos describe the renovation now being carried out daily by our nation and people. All these show that the Vietnamese photographic sector will be able to make giant steps forward and discover more gifted artists."

On behalf of the Vietnam Photographic Artists' Association, Comrade Phan Bao thanked the comrade general secretary and pledged to comply with his advice.

Australia

Evans Cited on Gulf Situation Following Return

BK3008100990 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0803 GMT 30 Aug 90

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] The Australian foreign affairs minister, Senator Gareth Evans, has warned there is no basis for believing the Persian Gulf crisis will be over by the end of this year. Senator Evans has given an exhaustive briefing on the situation to his ministerial colleagues after returning from a week of talks overseas with other players in the crisis.

In Canberra, Radio Australia's diplomatic correspondent, Stuart Heather, reports.

[Begin recording] [Evans] There was no mood that I could discern anywhere in the United States, Europe, or the Arab countries in favor now of a military resolution to the crisis.

[Heather] Gareth Evans says he is now as well informed as anyone on the thinking in the international community about solving the Persian Gulf crisis. (?The) people he talked to in the past week in Egypt, Italy, Switzerland, and the United States confirm his access to high-level participants, including the American secretary of state, James Baker, and UN secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar. As a result of those talks, Senator Evans has outlined four scenarios for achieving satisfactory peace. They are firstly, that in the face of the (?major war) against it, Iraq capitulates unconditionally.

[Evans] But I have to say that nonetheless this does not appear to be an option which is likely to happen in the near future.

[Heather] Secondly, a way might be negotiated for Saddam Husayn to back off while maintaining face with his people and his neighbors—a diplomatic ladder to climb down.

[Evans] The general perception at this stage is that attempts at a negotiated settlement would be unlikely to be productive unless and until sanctions have had some time to bite.

[Heather] The third option is a military strike. But as we have already heard, Senator Evans finds little support for that.

[Evans] While the strike option should not be wholly ruled out at the end of the day should all other means of resolving the crisis fail, it is not a course which should be contemplated for the foreseeable future. There are a number of factors that underlie this last judgment. The concept of quick, clean surgical strikes to wipe out key installations while avoiding a wider conflagration is, I think, a fantasy.

[Heather] And, lastly there is a continuation of sanctions.

[Evans] A strategy which does now command universal support in my judgment is to maintain the sanctions squeeze in the expectations that it will eventually work. Although there are different views as to when it will work, how precisely it will work, and as to what elements will finally come into play in ensuring that it does work, the common ground is that sanctions pressure must be maintained with a maximum intensity and persistence and that every effort must be made to ensure the continued solidarity of the international response.

[Heather] Senator Evans says there are two streams of opinion among leaders on the technique of applying sanctions. One, he calls squeeze and pray—just keep up the pressure without offering negotiations—and that there is squeeze and talk, which offers Saddam a way out. It is possible the issues Iraq was discussing with Kuwait before he invaded, including their territorial dispute, could be put on the table and perhaps go to the International Court of Justice. Other possible points of a negotiated settlement include a shift away from demanding the absolute and unconditional return of the Al Sabah ruling family in Kuwait, agreements on regional arms reductions, and some progress on the other regional conflicts of the Lebanon and the Palestinian claims—issues raised by Saddam Husayn had already been rejected by the West.

[Evans] Let me say however that there is no scope for crudely linking, as Saddam Husayn has already tried to do, the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait with the resolution of the Palestinian or Lebanon problems. But these two remain intractable major issues which demand eventual fair resolution in their own right, and certainly their resolution would do an enormous amount obviously to guarantee the future peace of the region. All I can really say is that it is not inconceivable that the eventual resolution of the Gulf crisis could involve some progress being made or at least foreshadowed on these fronts. But the handling of these issues would need to be extraordinarily delicate (?lest it prove) quite counterproductive. [end recording]

Discusses Commodities in Iraq

BK3008072490 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0700 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Australia's foreign minister, Senator Gareth Evans, says there is no basis for believing the Gulf crisis will be over by the end of this year. After returning to Australia from a week-long round of talks on three continents, Senator Evans has given an exhaustive briefing on the situation to a meeting of federal cabinet.

In Egypt, Italy, and the United States, Senator Evans met leaders of other nations involved in the crisis and senior officials at the United Nations. Senator Evans said he has detected a consensus against any military resolution of the crisis and [he is] confident that the solution can be found through peaceful means, including sanctions.

He said stocks of essential commodities in Iraq will last three to six months, and Iraqis have previously shown a capacity to endure hardship under duress. However, Senator Evans said blockade is the most effective sanction operation ever mounted. Iraq may inevitably feel pain as it continues. Senator Evans said the international mood has changed from day-to-day crisis management to building a long-term response.

MP's Vote To Support Privatization of Bank

BK2808122090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1057 GMT 28 Aug 90

[Text] Sydney, Aug 28 (AFP)—Government MPs [members of parliament] overturned Labor history Tuesday to support partial privatisation of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) and rescue Treasurer Paul Keating from humiliating defeat. The vote, by 62 votes to 26, followed long and heated debate during which Mr. Keating warned of grave implications for Australia's financial system if the move was rejected.

Mr. Keating had proposed a private equity injection into the CBA to allow it to buy the debt-plagued State Bank of Victoria for 1.6 billion dollars (1.3 billion U.S.). The buy-out will give the CBA a strong market share in the southeastern state of Victoria, and make it the biggest bank in Australia.

Mr. Keating, Prime Minister Bob Hawke's heir-apparent, had been the target of bitter personal abuse by leading members of the party's left faction, who had talked of crossing the floor of parliament on the issue.

The prime minister opened the meeting with a strong three-minute address backing Mr. Keating. In a highly charged atmosphere, left-wingers proposed an alternative to privatisation, but were defeated by the combined vote of the right and centre left factions.

Political commentators considered the meeting vital to the future of the Hawke government, some even suggesting that defeat could have meant its destruction. Victory for Mr. Hawke and Mr. Keating is seen as a major blow to the anti-privatisation lobby in the run up to a crucial labor party conference September 24.

Government plans to expose its telecommunications networks to private competition and to privatise the national airlines will be thrashed out at the conference. However, left-wing sources say the faction remains determined to continue fighting further privatisation moves within the government.

After the meeting a restrained Mr. Keating described the debate as "lively and intelligent". He said that athough ownership of the CBA was important, it was of secondary importance. "Its influence in our economy and society are more important than who owns it," he said.

Under the terms of the resolution carried by the meeting, 30 per cent equity will be sold as shares at an appropriate market price.

The resolution carried by the meeting rejected any loss of majority government control. It also required an employee share-owning scheme is to be established. Other conditions imposed by the resolution included legislation requiring majority government ownership of the CBA in perpetuity. It stipulates that the 1.6 billion dollar proceeds from the sale be used as the purchase price for the state bank. Other banks, including foreign banks, would not be permitted to acquire shares in the CBA.

In the meantime, the Victorian government Tuesday announced a royal commission into the collapse of Tricontinental, the merchant banking arm of the State Bank of Victoria. The state bank's debts totalling more than two billion dollars were acknowledged to be due mainly to Tricontinental's bad lending practices.

In what was described as a horror budget delivered Tuesday, the Victorian government announced sale of a number of other assets besides the bank to start to reduce the huge government debts. Other measures included raising taxes on tobacco, alcohol, fuel and public transport and slashing 8,000 government jobs

Papua New Guinea

Namaliu Affirms Commitment to Freedom of Speech

BK2908130590 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] The Papua New Guinea prime minister, Mr. Namaliu, has rejected suggestions that the country's media should be completely government owned. In a statement clarifying his government's policy on the issue, Mr. Namaliu said it was firmly committed to freedom of speech and freedom of the media.

The prime minister's statement followed a speech to the [word indistinct] Chamber of Commerce several days ago in which the trade and industry minister, Mr. John Giheno, had said the media as a strategic industry should be owned and managed by the government, not private enterprise. This led to criticism from both the media and the opposition. Mr. Namaliu said Mr. Giheno had been exercising his right to express a personal opinion.